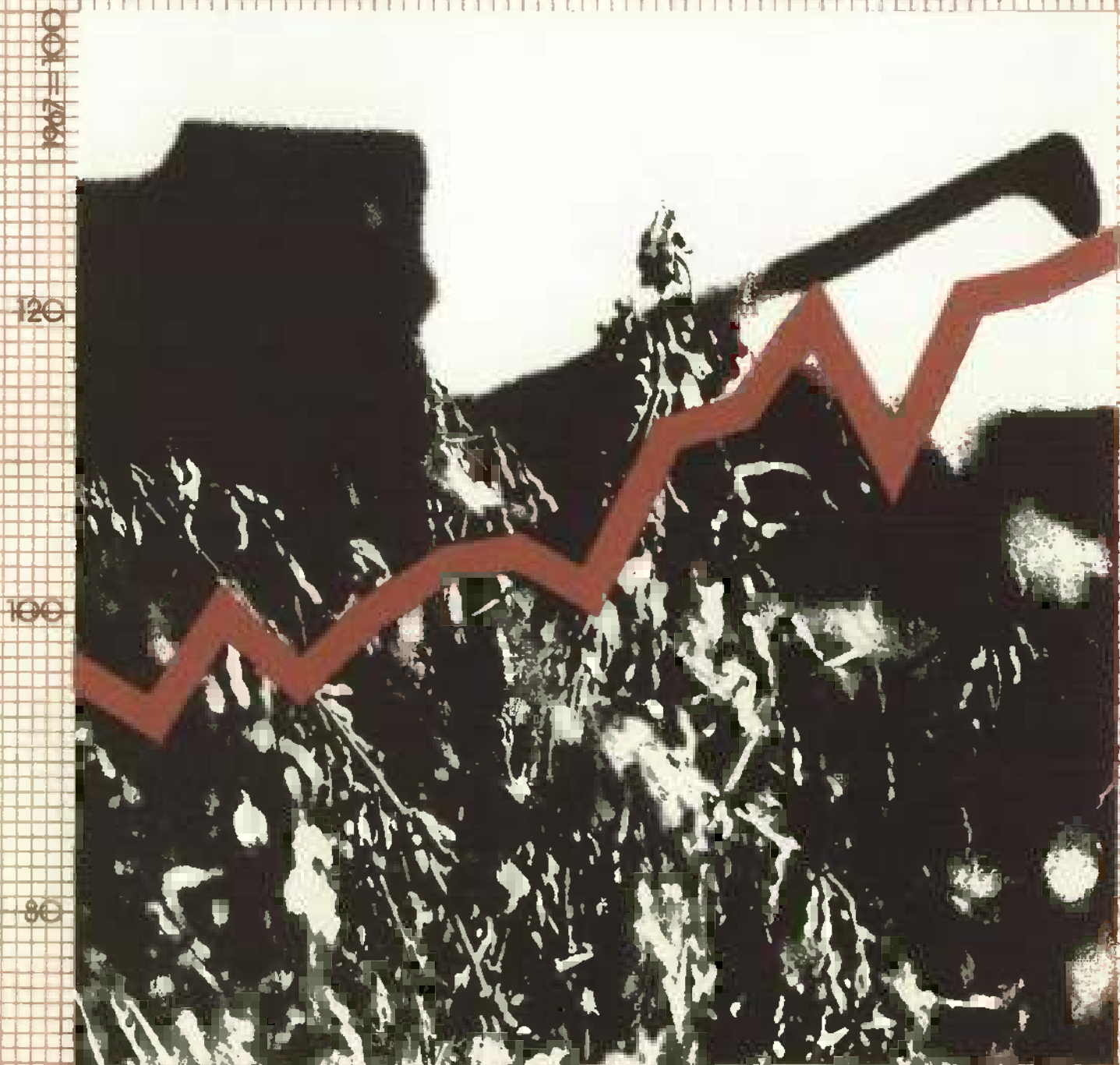


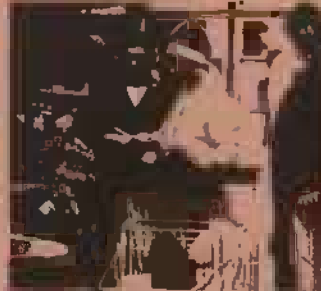
AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

APPROVED BY THE WORLD FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK AND SITUATION BOARD
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE • AO-25



CROP PRODUCTION INDEXES (1963-ESTIMATED 1977)

SEPTEMBER 1977



Agricultural Outlook September 1977/AO-25

Editorial Staff

Robert R. Miller: Economics Editor,
National Economic Analysis Division
(202) 447-7330

Geraldine Schumacher: Managing Editor,
Information Division (202) 447-6250

Adrie S. Custer: Writer-Editor, Information
Division

L. Glenn Golden: Writer-Editor, Information
Division

B. Eric Van Chantfort: Writer-Editor,
Information Division

Neal Holland Duncan: Writer-Editor,
Information Division

Shirley Hammond: Editorial Assistant,
Information Division

Eileen Johnson: Statistical Coordinator,
National Economic Analysis Division

Edna L. James, Patricia D. Hughes, Sheila L.
Turner, Carole Dishman: Composition
and Layout, Information Division

For further information on subjects dis-
cussed in this report, you may wish to
contact the persons listed at the end of
individual sections.

Contents of this report have been approved
by the World Food and Agricultural Outlook
and Situation Board and the summary was
released August 26, 1977. Materials may be
reprinted without permission. Agricultural
Outlook is published monthly, except
January. Annual subscription: \$19.50
domestic, \$24.40 foreign. A 25-percent
discount is now being offered on orders of
100 copies or more to one address. Order
from the Superintendent of Documents,
Government Printing Office, Washington,
D.C. 20402. Make check payable to Super-
intendent of Documents.

Annual subscription in microfiche: North
American Continent addresses \$25.75 first
order, \$21 for each additional to one
address, other addresses \$45 each subscrip-
tion. Order from National Technical
Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161.
Refer to publication code NTISUB/C/151
and make check payable to NTIS.

Address change: Please cut or peel off the
mailing label from your most recent issue
and mail it along with your new address to:
Agricultural Outlook, Room 453 GHI Bldg.,
ERS-USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Use
same address for editorial correspondence.

CONTENTS

Page

- 1 Agricultural Economy**
Larger grain production to increase domestic use and stocks, domestic economy
continues at high level, but foreign demand weaker.
- 3 Food and Marketing**
Large supplies to stabilize food prices this fall, retail coffee prices begin to slip.
- 6 Commodities**
With most crops down to the final stages of their growth cycle, big crops of grains,
soybeans, and cotton seem pretty much assured. Grain prices have continued to
weaken under the pressure of the mounting supplies.
- 9 Beef Production in 1978 and Beyond**
ERS economists discuss two possible scenarios for the cattle cycle from 1977
through 1980, outlining how the cattle industry might react to sharply different
weather conditions.
- 11 Policy**
Compromise farm bill raises price supports for the 1977 wheat and corn crops, also
modifies food stamp program and extends Public Law 480.
- 13 World Agriculture and Trade**
Export demand for U.S. feed grains in fiscal 1978 may weaken because of
appreciably larger world grain supplies.
- 16 Farm Income Trends and Development**
This special series of charts and tables depicts trends in farmers' earnings and
expenditures over the past decade.
- 21 Recent Publications**
A brief listing of recent USDA reports, arranged by subject matter, which might
be of interest to Agricultural Outlook readers.
- 22 Outlook Conference**
Highlights of Nov. 14-17 Food and Agricultural Outlook Conference.
- 23 Statistical Indicators**
A tabular presentation of key data series for the food and fiber sector.



Larger Grain Supplies and Lower Prices To Increase Use and Stocks

The prospect of record crop production and larger grain stocks this fall continues to have an overriding influence on the agricultural outlook. Total crop production this year is expected to be 2 percent larger than last year. Supplies of all major crops—including feed grains, soybeans, wheat, and cotton—are expected to more than adequately meet demand requirements and still build up stocks.

Grain prices have continued to weaken under the pressure of mounting supplies. Consequently, producers are placing a large amount of wheat under Government loan. Current indications are that corn producers will also use the loan program extensively this fall.

In early August, the House and Senate conferees reached agreement on the farm bill pending before Congress. While the main purpose of the legislation is to authorize programs for the next 4 years starting with 1978 crops, some revisions would be directed for 1977 target prices and loan rates. Significant provisions for 1977 include raising the target price for wheat to \$2.90 and raising both the target price and loan rate for corn to \$2.00. (See Policy section for details of the farm bill).

Domestic and foreign demands for the large grain supplies during the 1977/78 marketing year are not expected to be sufficient to bolster sagging prices, particularly for wheat, corn, and other feed grains. Lower grain and feed prices will likely encourage a pickup in livestock and poultry feeding and therefore the demand for feed grains. However, export demand for U.S. feed grains may weaken because of expected larger grain supplies and improved forage conditions in some market countries.

Farm Income Picture Weak

The further weakening of grain prices in recent weeks has confirmed the already declining income prospects for many farmers in the third and fourth quarters of this year. Cash receipts for crops will be down sharply this fall in line with lower prices of grains, soybeans, and cotton. With livestock receipts holding up, lower feed prices are providing some increase in current income to livestock producers. Nevertheless, net farm income nationally will be down sharply in the last half.

Direct Government payments to wheat producers will be made for the 1977 crop, with the level subject to pending legislation. These payments, to begin late this fall, could add over a billion dollars to wheat producers' income from the 1977 crop.

Farmers are also expected to make heavy use of the Government loan program for major crops as a means of obtaining funds while keeping control of the product. But with big crop prospects and sagging prices, 1977 realized net farm income will be down significantly from the 1976 level of \$22 billion. However, total net farm income, which includes inventory change, may be about the same as last year's \$20 billion.

Soybean and Cotton Production Expected To Rise Sharply

August 1 crop prospects confirmed earlier expectations of a large 1977 output of most crops. While low moisture conditions have been of great concern since spring plantings, timely rainfall kept crops in fair to good condition during critical growth stages of soybean podding, cottonball set, and corn ear formation.

Production of soybeans is expected to reach a record high of 1,602 million bushels, 27 percent larger than the 1976 crop. With larger supplies available, increases in both domestic crushings and exports may be

expected to occur during the marketing year.

Carryover stocks on September 1, 1978 will probably be around 145 million bushels. Prices for the 1977 crop will probably average around \$5 per bushel, sharply lower than the 1976/77 season, but about \$1.50 above the support level.

This year's cotton crop may be the largest since 1972. An output of 13.5 million bales is forecast, 28 percent more than last year. However, demand may decline slightly from a year ago, resulting in a sharp increase in carryover stocks next summer. As a result of the likely supply-demand imbalance, cotton prices have weakened in recent months.

The corn crop was estimated at 6.1 billion bushels based on crop conditions on August 1, a 4-percent decline from the July 1 estimate, but only 2 percent below the record 1976 crop. Production of corn and other feed grains, coupled with carryover stocks, will provide a near-record supply of feed grains for 1977/78. But U.S. exports of feed grains are likely to decline somewhat.

Corn prices have dropped below \$2 per bushel but if the new farm bill becomes law, the loan programs will help maintain farm prices at levels close to loan rates.

Wheat supplies for 1977/78 are at an all-time high and carryover stocks are likely to be in excess of half of a year's production. Consequently, voluntary reduction programs are being considered for acreage the coming year to hold down production and future surpluses.

Market prices are currently substantially below the target price of \$2.90 per bushel provided for in the new farm bill and also below the \$2.47 announced in the current law. Thus deficiency payments will be paid to producers for the 1977 crop.

KEY STATISTICAL INDICATORS OF THE FOOD AND FIBER SECTOR

Item	1975	1976					1977				
	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III	IV	Annual
										Forecast	
Prices received by farmers (1967=100)	185	186	192	189	176	186	187	190	180	175	182
Livestock and products (1967=100)	172	180	185	175	165	177	172	174	179	180	176
Crops (1967=100)	201	193	200	206	190	197	204	208	181	171	190
Prices paid by farmers, all items (1967=100)	180	190	192	193	192	192	200	204	204	205	203
Production items ¹ (1967=100)	187	198	200	201	198	199	207	211	209	209	209
Farm production (1967=100)	114	—	—	—	—	117	—	—	—	—	118
Livestock and products (1967=100)	101	—	—	—	—	106	—	—	—	—	108
Crops (1967=100)	121	—	—	—	—	122	—	—	—	—	124
Farm income: ²											
Cash receipts (\$ bil.)	88.1	93.0	100.4	91.5	92.4	94.3	95.9	99.0	—	—	93.8
Livestock (\$ bil.)	43.0	46.3	48.3	45.5	45.4	46.4	45.3	48.0	—	—	47.3
Crops (\$ bil.)	45.1	46.7	52.1	46.0	47.0	47.9	50.6	51.0	—	—	46.5
Realized gross farm income (\$ bil.)	96.7	102.1	109.6	100.9	101.9	103.6	105.6	108.8	—	—	105.5
Production expenses (\$ bil.)	75.9	79.1	84.2	82.3	81.2	81.7	83.1	87.1	—	—	85.5
Farmers' realized net income (\$ bil.)	20.8	23.0	25.4	18.6	20.7	21.9	22.5	21.7	—	—	19.3
Farmers' total net income (\$ bil.) ³	24.3	21.5	23.2	17.6	18.0	20.0	22.0	21.0	—	—	20.0
Market basket: ⁴											
Retail cost (\$)	1,876	1,910	1,895	1,902	1,875	1,895	1,913	1,932	1,965	1,975	1,945
Farm value (\$)	784	769	764	749	711	749	742	749	748	741	745
Spread (\$)	1,092	1,141	1,131	1,153	1,164	1,146	1,171	1,183	1,217	1,234	1,200
Farm share (%)	42	40	40	39	38	40	39	39	38	38	38
Retail prices:											
Food (1967=100)	175.4	179.8	180.0	182.0	181.5	180.8	186.6	192.1	196	197	193
At home (1967=100)	175.8	179.4	178.9	180.6	179.3	179.5	184.8	190.3	195	195	191
Away-from-home (1967=100)	174.3	181.9	184.7	187.8	190.1	186.1	193.7	199.1	202	205	200
Per capita food use (1967=100)	102.1	—	—	—	—	105.5	—	—	—	—	105.1
Animal products (1967=100)	100.1	—	—	—	—	104.1	—	—	—	—	104.1
Crop products (1967=100)	103.7	—	—	—	—	107.2	—	—	—	—	106.2
Agricultural exports ⁵ (\$ bil.)	21.9	6.2	5.6	5.6	5.4	22.8	6.5	6.2	6.3	5.9	24.0
Agricultural imports ⁵ (\$ bil.)	9.5	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.8	10.5	2.9	3.6	3.9	3.7	14.0

¹ Including interest, wages, and taxes. ² Quarterly data are seasonally adjusted at annual rates. ³ Includes net change in farm inventories. ⁴ Quarterly data are given at annual rates. ⁵ Annual and quarterly data are based on Oct.-Sept. fiscal years ending with indicated years; quarterly data may not add to annuals due to rounding.

Feeder Cattle Supplies Relatively Plentiful As Cattle Numbers Decline

Cattle producers have been reducing herds at a fairly rapid rate. The July 1 inventory of cattle and calves was 130.6 million head, 2 percent fewer than a year earlier. This was less than half the decrease in inventory the previous 12 months. The breeding herd continues to drop, which suggests that beef supplies likely will be smaller in the next several years.

The July report showed a 3-percent increase in the number of yearling feeder cattle. These cattle are expected to support increases in feeding and in fed cattle marketings into next year. Supplies of young feeder cattle, however, showed a slight decrease.

With large feed supplies and low prices, beef production next year will probably consist of a higher percentage of fed beef than in the past few years. Increased feeding will help maintain domestic use of the large feed grain supply.

Export Value May Dip

Large domestic supplies of most crops are likely to meet increased competition abroad in the coming year.

The value of U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1978, beginning October 1 this year, may total 5 to 10 percent below the \$24-billion total estimated for fiscal 1977. Lower prices will be mainly responsible for the drop in value, but tonnage may also decline slightly. Significantly, lower exports of feed grains than this year's 50 million tons seems likely in fiscal 1978. However, lower prices may encourage an increase of 5 to 10 percent in U.S. exports of soybeans from this year's 15½ million tons.

U.S. agricultural exports in the current fiscal year ending September 30 are expected to show an increase of 5 percent or \$1 billion over fiscal 1976. Cotton export volume may be 40 percent above fiscal 1976. Exports of soybean products, vegetables, and rice also will be higher.

U.S. imports of agricultural products are registering much larger value increases than

exports this year. Consequently, our agricultural trade surplus for fiscal 1977 may decline to about \$10 billion from \$12½ billion in 1975/76. This agricultural trade surplus, however, is very important to the U.S. foreign trade balance, which this year may show a record deficit of \$20 to \$25 billion.

The value of U.S. agricultural imports is not expected to change much in fiscal 1978. Coupled with lower exports, the agriculture trade balance will likely again decline.

Domestic Economy Continues at High Level

Economic activity, according to the most recent indicators, continues to expand but the rate of growth may be slowing. Personal consumption expenditures, however, are being supported by a reduction in taxes as well as an increase in Social Security benefits. This points to growing demand for food and fiber in coming months.

Real GNP during the second quarter grew 6.1 percent at an annual rate, not as fast as earlier estimated. But real growth during the first half of 1977 was still exceptionally strong—averaging close to 7 percent. Consumer expenditures for food in the second quarter were up 9.5 percent over a year ago. After adjustment for inflation, the increase was 5 percent.

Personal income increased at a moderate 0.8 percent in July. This was higher than the slim May and June increases, but the July figure was boosted by an increase in Social Security payments.

Retail sales climbed 0.5 percent in July for their first increase in 4 months. Sales by foodstores, auto dealers, and apparel stores were the only major retail categories to post declines in July. The decline in foodstore sales, however, may have stemmed from price cuts rather than from a reduction in volume.

Industrial production increased 0.5 percent in July, the sixth consecutive monthly gain but the smallest this year. The July unemployment rate declined from 7.1 to 6.9 percent, but the number of people with jobs was about unchanged after rapid gains in recent months.

The inflation picture improved in July. Wholesale prices, seasonally adjusted, edged down marginally, while the increase in consumer prices slowed. Favorable price movements are predicted at least for the next few months.

Stable Fourth Quarter Food Prices in Prospect

Relatively stable food prices are in prospect for the remainder of 1977, reflecting generally large food supplies. In the important meat category, beef prices may increase moderately from summer levels, but pork and poultry prices are expected to decline. Dairy prices probably will rise this fall, but only moderately.

With a large fall crop in prospect, retail potato prices likely will continue to decline seasonally. Prices of most other fresh vegetables are expected to show little change this fall. Fresh fruit prices are expected to decline seasonally this fall as the apple and citrus crops begin to reach retail stores. Coffee prices, which apparently peaked this summer, may decline this fall but much less rapidly than the runup this past year.

Large crop harvests this fall would assure continued ample supplies of most crop foods through mid-1978. Increased supplies of both pork and poultry also are expected next year but beef supplies may decline. Liquidation of the cattle herd contributed to record-high beef consumption the past couple of years. With rising consumer incomes, the reduced level of beef supplies in 1978 will likely result in higher beef prices (see special article on beef production in 1978 and beyond).

Due largely to increases the first half of the year, grocery store prices for 1977 still appear likely to average around 6 percent above 1976. The increase for all-food prices will be a little higher, since restaurant prices are running 7 to 8 percent over a year ago.

Higher Loan Rates and Wheat Set-Aside Intentions Announced

On August 29 the Administration announced the following decisions:

- An immediate increase in the loan rates for 1977 crop feed grains. The corn loan rate was increased from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per bushel with other feed grains set in the proper relationship to corn. This increase is the same as that required under the proposed 1977 farm bill.

- Intentions to implement a 20-percent set-aside on 1978 crop wheat if the proposed new farm bill passes. While the program is voluntary, farmer compliance with the set-aside is a condition of eligibility for target price protection, loans, and purchases. A feed grain set-aside decision will be made when more is known about 1977 production and consumption. However, current production estimates indicate that a 10-percent set-aside may be needed to keep stocks from climbing to excessive levels.

- A comprehensive plan to place 30 to 35 million metric tons of food and feed grains in reserve prior to the beginning of the 1978/79 marketing year, including a proposal to Congress to create a special International Emergency Food Reserve of up to 6 million tons. Cecil W. Davison, (202) 447-8840



Food and Marketing

Food shoppers can look forward to relatively stable prices during the remainder of 1977 in contrast to the sharp increases during the first 7 months of the year.

Third quarter food prices likely will average about 2 percent above the second quarter and around 7 percent above a year earlier—largely the result of increases through July. Fourth quarter prices may show little change from the third quarter although the year-to-year differences could widen slightly in light of the dip in food prices late last year.

For all of 1977, grocery store food prices still appear likely to average around 6 percent above 1976. The average increase for all food likely will be a little higher since away-from-home food prices may be up 7 or 8 percent for the year.

More than half of the 1977 increase in grocery store food prices is coming from higher prices for coffee and other imported foods and fish. Retail prices for a market basket of U.S.-produced farm foods are expected to average less than 3 percent above the 1976 level. Since returns to farmers are estimated close to 1976 levels, essentially all of the increase at retail for the market basket will result from higher marketing spreads. For the year as a whole, the farm-to-retail spread may average around 5 percent above 1976.

Retail meat prices are expected to hold relatively steady on balance through fall with moderate increases for beef about offsetting declines for pork. Per capita pork supplies will be seasonally larger this fall although slightly below a year earlier. Thus, retail pork prices likely will decline from their summer peak but remain moderately above a year ago.

With per capita beef supplies expected to be little changed from either their summer or year-earlier levels, retail prices likely will rise due to stronger consumer demand and some widening of farm-retail spreads.

Retail poultry prices should show their usual drop this fall with plentiful broiler supplies combining with a seasonally large turkey output. However, fish prices are expected to continue to climb, resulting from the relatively close balance between supply and demand for most fishery products and continued upward pressure on fishing and processing costs.

Dairy prices will likely be rising this fall, but only moderately. Milk output will be declining seasonally, although ample supplies of dairy products will be available. Price increases will primarily reflect higher dairy product support prices which were put into effect last spring, as well as continued upward pressure from processing and marketing costs.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES CONTINUE RISING; WHOLESALE UP AGAIN



Egg prices are also expected to rise seasonally this fall. However, per capita egg supplies will about match last year's level this fall after lagging behind a year earlier through most of the past year. Thus, a sharp runup in egg prices such as occurred last fall and winter is not likely this fall.

Retail potato prices have already dropped sharply from their midyear peak as supplies have increased seasonally. With a large fall-crop harvest in prospect, retail prices likely will continue to decline unless adverse weather conditions occur before the harvest is complete in the major producing areas. However, prospective supplies of sweet potatoes are down 12 percent from last year and retail prices are likely to be correspondingly higher.

Supplies of most other fresh vegetables returned to more normal levels during the late spring and summer after the disruption caused by last winter's freeze in Florida. Prices of most items are likely to remain relatively steady through the early fall before beginning their normal seasonal advance late in the year.

Fresh fruit prices are expected to decline seasonally this fall as the harvest begins for the important apple and citrus crops. Although the prospective 1977 apple harvest is indicated to be about 8 percent larger than last year's freeze-damaged crop, strong processor and export demand may hold prices near year-earlier levels. With pear production expected to be 8 percent below last year, prices are likely to be moderately higher.

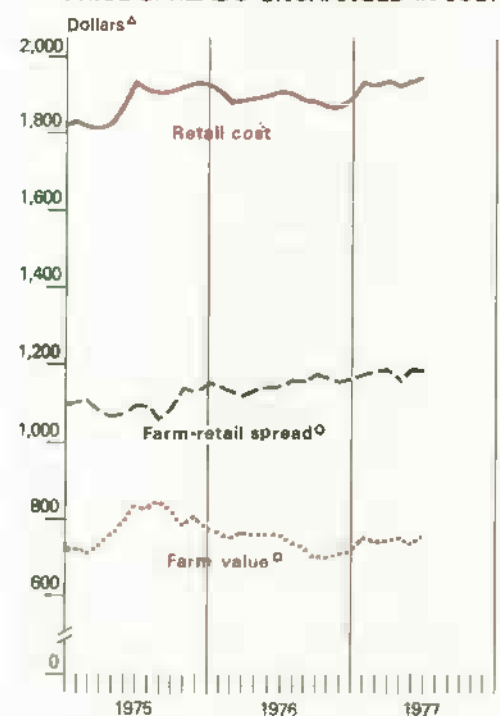
Retail prices for processed fruits and vegetables are expected to continue to rise this fall. Supplies of frozen concentrated orange juice remain tight relative to demand due to the effects of last winter's freeze in Florida. While adequate-to-ample supplies of most other items are expected, prices likely will strengthen due to higher costs of producing, processing, and marketing.

Large supplies and relatively low prices for grains and other major ingredients should preclude substantial price increases in the cereal and bakery category this fall. However, modest price increases are likely for these items reflecting continued upward pressure from marketing and distributing costs.

The upward spiral in coffee prices apparently ended about midyear. The combination of high prices which limited consumption, along with substantial recovery in coffee production from last year's freeze-damaged crop, dropped wholesale prices sharply this summer. Retail prices are expected to decline this fall, but probably much less rapidly than they rose last winter and spring.

Prices in the sugar and sweets category may rise moderately later this year, reflecting continued increases for chocolate products, as well as some anticipated recovery in raw sugar prices from their recently depressed level. Prices for vegetable oil products are also expected to rise moderately as higher oil prices last spring and summer continue to be passed through to the final products. *Larry Summers, (202) 447-8707*

PRICE SPREADS UNCHANGED IN JULY



▲ Annual rate per household for market basket of farm foods

○ Gross margin received by marketing firms for assembling, processing, transporting, and distributing.

◻ Gross return to farmers for equivalent amounts of farm foods.

July Food Prices Show Further Rise

Retail food prices rose another ½ percent from June to July with grocery store and food-away-from-home prices showing the same rate of increase. Compared with a year earlier, the Consumer Price Index for all food was up nearly 7 percent with food-at-home prices up about 6½ percent and away-from-home prices up nearly 8 percent.

Eggs registered the largest increase from the previous month of all items priced. After falling more than 32 percent from February through items priced. After falling more than 32 percent from February through June, egg prices jumped 16 percent in July to about the same level as last year.

Poultry prices rose nearly 2½ percent, less than their usual rise in July and were also about the same as a year earlier. Fish prices continued to climb—up nearly 1½ percent from June and 11½ percent from a year ago. Red meat prices in July were up slightly from June with increases for pork and other meats more than offsetting a small decline for beef. However, meat prices still averaged about 4 percent below a year earlier. Dairy product prices were about unchanged from June and up about 3½ percent from a year ago.

Retail prices for beverages held about steady from June to July in contrast to the sharp increases of the past year or more. Regular coffee prices registered their first decline in 2 years although prices for instant coffee and tea continued to rise.

Fresh produce prices were generally down for the month with the largest declines for watermelons and cabbage. Vegetable oil products registered a 2-percent rise from June and were 17 percent above a year earlier. Prices for most other foods were relatively stable.

1977 Food Consumption Slightly Below 1976 Record

According to the latest estimates, the American consumers' per capita food use, which reached a record high in 1976, may be down ½ percent this year, but will still be the second highest in history. The decline will be largely due to a 1-percent drop in the consumption of crop foods; per capita use of foods derived from livestock likely will remain about unchanged in total.

In the crop food category, consumption likely will be down for coffee, fresh and processed fruit, and fresh vegetables due to the lower availability of these items early this year. Consumption of most other crop items will be about the same as last year.

Consumer use of livestock foods will reflect higher per capita supplies of pork and poultry, which will about offset lower consumption of beef, fish, and eggs. Per capita use of dairy products likely will be about the same as last year. *Larry Summers, (202) 447-8707*

Marketing Spreads Drop in July

Farm-retail spreads for a market basket of foods produced on U.S. farms increased only 0.1 percent in July after increasing sharply in June and decreasing in May. The seesawing effect mainly results from the lag in retail prices adjusting to changes in returns to farmers. The July increase in marketing spreads was accompanied by a 0.6-percent increase in retail prices and a 1.5-percent increase in returns to farmers.

Increases in price spreads for oilseed products were very sharp in July as soybean prices plummeted and retail prices continued to rise. These increases, together with more moderate increases for pork and eggs about balanced narrowing farm-to-retail price spreads for fresh vegetables. Rapid increases in returns to farmers for some fresh vegetables lagged increases in retail prices. Price spreads for most other farm foods showed little change from June to July.

On a year-to-year basis, the July 1977 farm-retail spread averaged about 4 percent above a year earlier. The retail cost of the market basket was up about 2 percent while the farm value was down about 1 percent.

The farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar spent in retail food stores for farm foods was 39 cents in July compared with 38 cents in June and 40 cents in July 1976.

Retail Prices and Marketing Spreads For Oilseed Products Rising

Retail prices of oilseed products, which were very stable through April of this year, increased sharply in May, June, and July. These increases lagged the general rise in returns to farmers for soybeans and other oilseeds by about 3 months. As a result, even though oilseed prices leveled in May and June and dropped sharply in July, retail prices for oilseed products are expected to continue rising in the next month or so

before they reflect the recent drop in returns to farmers.

Movements in farm-retail spreads for oilseed products have been volatile so far this year. During the first 4 months of 1977, retail prices were stable, farm prices rose rapidly, and as a result, farm-retail price spreads for oilseed products were squeezed significantly. But during the next 3 months, marketing spreads widened and more than regained the earlier decrease because retail prices rose rapidly while returns to farmers held stable and then dropped sharply in July. Spreads for oilseed products, which were 20 percent wider in July than a year earlier, are expected to continue wide into the fall. *Henry Badger, (202) 447-8454*

Good News for Coffee Drinkers

The U.S. average monthly retail price of a 1-pound can of roasted coffee at \$3.89 in July was down slightly from the record high \$3.94 per pound in June. While not much of a decline, this is the first time in 2 years—beginning with August 1975—that retail prices of roasted coffee did not increase.

Declining consumption in the United States and around the world caused wholesale prices of roasted coffee to decline from \$4 in June to \$3.74 in July and the August level is expected to go lower. With a significantly larger world crop being realized this year, plus potential for an even larger crop next year, wholesale prices can be expected to continue to decline for some time.

However, although retail prices should also decline, they will likely decline more slowly than they increased as retailers attempt to sell coffee purchased at previously higher wholesale prices before replacing inventories with lower priced coffee. *Fred Gray, (202) 447-7290*

Cigarette Price Hikes

A major cigarette manufacturer recently hiked its cigarette prices 85 cents to \$14.35 per 1,000 for regular and king size brands, and to \$14.85 for longer cigarettes. Other companies are expected to follow suit. This wholesale rise will raise consumer prices by 2 cents per pack (20 cents per carton). Retail prices of cigarettes now vary from 32 cents to 75 cents per pack depending on location and size of purchase.



Commodities

With most crops down to the final stages of their growth cycle, big crops of grains, soybeans, and cotton seem pretty much assured. NOAA's monthly weather forecast through mid-September called for above-normal precipitation across much of the Nation and cooler than normal temperatures. But with the advanced state of crop development this year, crops should mature normally before any significant chance of frost occurs.

Feed Grain Prices Weaken With Prospects of Near-Record Supply

August crop estimates point to record feed grain production again this year—about 213 million short tons, a shade above last year's record output. The corn crop was estimated at 6.1 billion bushels, 2 percent below the 1976 record crop, but oat production was expected to be up 35 percent, barley up 8 percent, and sorghum about the same as last year.

Carryover stocks from 1976/77 will be about 34 million short tons, 6 percent more than the year before and the largest since 1971/72. These levels of crop production and carryover would put the feed grain supply for 1977/78 at about 247 million tons, 6 percent more than the 1976/77

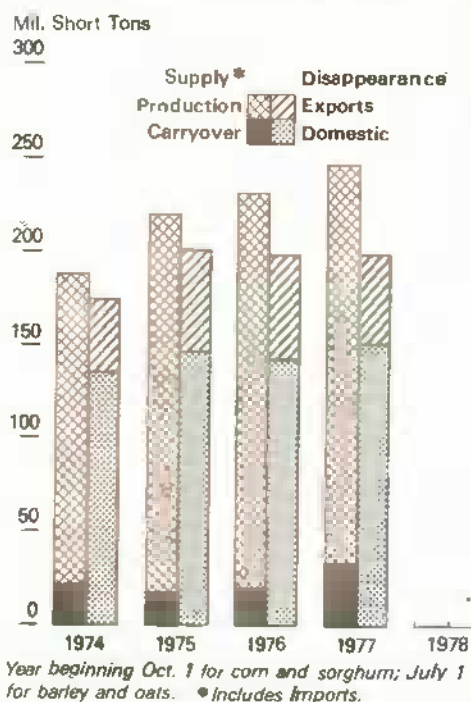
supply and within 2 percent of the record supply in 1972/73.

Feed grain prices have weakened as prospects for record production developed. Also, world grain stocks are appreciably larger than last year, and 1977/78 world grain production is expected to be nearly as large as the record output in 1976/77. This dampens export prospects for U.S. grains. Export commitments for new crop corn are much smaller than at this time in the past several years.

Increased production of meat, milk, and eggs and heavier feeding rates are likely to boost feeding about 6 percent in 1977/78. But generally favorable weather for grain production around the world likely will reduce foreign demand for U.S. feed grains 10 to 15 percent from the volume shipped in 1976/77.

Corn exports are forecast at 1.45 billion bushels, down from this season's 1.65 billion. Total U.S. disappearance in 1977/78 likely will fall short of production, leading to a substantial building of carryover stocks. These developments suggest that loan activity will be very heavy and that prices received by farmers for corn in 1977/78 will average near the 1977 crop loan levels.

1977 FEED GRAIN PRODUCTION EXPECTED AT RECORD LEVELS



Typically, prices run somewhat lower than loan rates when crops are large and prices are low, especially around harvest when supplies are at their peak. Corn prices probably will average somewhat below \$2.00 per bushel in October-December, but beginning next spring may be a little above \$2.00. Prospects for 1978 crops will have an important bearing on corn prices in the second half of the 1977/78 marketing year. *George R. Rockwell, Jr., (202) 447-8636*

Soybean Crop Headed for New Record

Indications point to a "record-busting" soybean crop this fall. As of early August, the crop was estimated at 1.6 billion bushels, about 337 million above the short 1976 output and 55 million above the previous record set in 1973.

A sharp increase in harvested acres plus improved yields per acre account for the expansion. Harvested acreage was estimated at 58.2 million acres, up nearly a fifth. Yields per acre—estimated at 27.5 bushels—were up about 2 bushels. Good planting weather and favorable soybean prices last spring and near-ideal growing conditions this summer were major factors underpinning the boost in output.

With the expected small carryover of 75 million bushels on September 1, the 1977/78 soybean supply is estimated at nearly 1.7 billion bushels, second only to the record 1975/76 supply. The larger availabilities plus lower prices are expected to spur an increase in both domestic crushings and exports. Domestic crushings may expand about 5 percent to around 840 million bushels. Lower prices should result in increased use of soybean meal by livestock and poultry producers.

Despite expected continuing competition from Brazilian soybeans, U.S. exports should expand as the demand for soybeans abroad is strong. Exports likely will increase 7 percent to about 610 million bushels. Even with these increases, total disappearance likely will fall short of output, leaving carryover stocks on September 1, 1978, at about double the level expected for this September.

With the favorable outlook for the new crop, soybean prices received by farmers have declined sharply. Prices dropped from a monthly high of \$9.21 per bushel last May to under \$6 in August. If crop conditions remain favorable into harvest, downward pressure on prices could continue. Prices likely will hit their low during the peak harvest period and then rise seasonally into the spring. For the season, prices are expected to average sharply below the \$7.25 now estimated for the 1976 crop. *Stanley A. Gazelle, (202) 447-8444*

Wheat Prices Weaken With Record 1977/78 Supply

The August 1 forecast of the wheat crop was 2,041 million bushels, 5 percent less than last year's record crop. The large carryover stocks on June 1 and the expected large crop point to a record high 1977/78 wheat supply of 3,152 million bushels. Although both domestic use and exports in 1977/78 are expected to be somewhat larger than last year, carryover stocks will again be larger next June 1.

This supply situation is the principal factor contributing to the drop in wheat prices. The U.S. farm price for wheat averaged \$3.42 per bushel at the beginning of 1976/77, but closed out the year at \$2.19. The farm price at the beginning of 1977/78 was \$2.03 in June and edged down further to \$2.00 in July.

September Situation Reports. . . Situation reports which will be released by the World Food and Agricultural Outlook and Situation Board this month include:

Title	Off Press
Poultry and Egg	September 1
Feed	September 7
Sugar and Sweetener	September 8
Fruit	September 9
Ag Supply and Demand	September 13
Livestock and Meat	September 20
National Food	September 20
Tobacco	September 22
Cotton and Wool	September 26
Dairy	September 27

Single copies of the above reports may be obtained by writing to: ERS Publications Unit, Room 0054 South Building, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Please include your zip code.

For 1977/78, farm prices are expected to average between \$2.20 to \$2.40 per bushel, compared with \$2.85 in 1976/77. Deficiency payments to farmers for 1977 wheat probably will be required for the first time under the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973.

New crop wheat prices have been running below the U.S. loan rate. Early loan activity has been heavy, but in the Southern Plains farm storage is relatively limited and many growers apparently are selling their harvest rather than paying for off-farm storage that would be involved in putting their crop under loan. Prices have been around 15 percent below the U.S. loan rate of \$2.25 per bushel. However, as wheat moves through market channels after harvest, prices will tend to strengthen seasonally.

Heavy placements under loan and the 3-year reserve program will be major price supporting factors. Other factors bearing on the price outlook are the new farm legislation, world crop developments, and the pattern of foreign purchases. World wheat crop prospects are for near-record production in 1977/78. Strong competition among exporting countries will continue in 1977/78. *George R. Rockwell, Jr., (202) 447-8636*

Large 1977 Cotton Crop To Replenish Supplies

The 28-percent larger 1977 cotton crop dominates the outlook for 1977/78. Based on August 1 indications, production will total about 13½ million bales, up from 10.6 million last year and the largest since 1972. And with disappearance perhaps totaling around the 1976/77 level of 11½ million bales, stocks will increase sharply. Next summer's carryover could increase to around 5½ million bales, compared with nearly 3 million on August 1.

This season's sharp increase in cotton production prospects reflects 15-percent larger plantings and nearly ideal growing conditions throughout the major producing regions. Recent favorable weather has resulted in exceptionally small abandonment and sharply higher yields. Only 4.1 percent of 1977 acreage was abandoned, down from the 1972-76 average of 6.7 percent. The indicated national average yield is placed at 506 pounds per harvested acre, up from 465 pounds last year and 29 pounds above the 1972-76 average.

Regional data for 1977 cotton crop production point to a further westward shift in U.S. output. Relatively high cotton prices last spring encouraged sharply larger acreage in the Southwest and Far West.

Acreage for harvest is now placed at 2 million in the Far West, or a record-high 15 percent of U.S. acreage, and 6.4 million in the Southwest, or a near-record 50 percent of the total. And with above-average yields in these regions, combined output west of the Mississippi Delta is expected to total a record 9½ million bales, 68 percent of the 1977 crop.

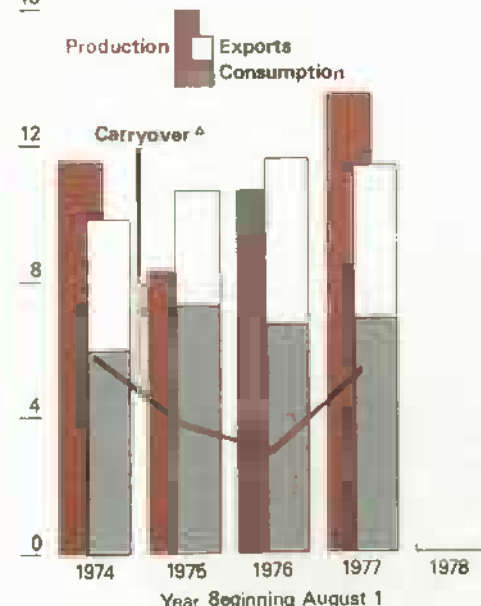
While Delta production is up a fourth, the Southeast output is down nearly a tenth to 0.7 million bales, or a record-low 5 percent of total U.S. production.

With prospective production sharply in excess of anticipated demand, cotton prices have weakened significantly in recent months. Most spot market prices now are about 20 cents per pound below year-earlier levels. For example, the price of SLM 1-1/16-inch cotton averaged 52 cents per pound in mid-August, compared with 73 cents in August 1976.

But despite this season's more abundant cotton supplies and cheaper prices, sluggish demand here and abroad is dampening 1977/78 disappearance prospects. Both U.S. mill use and exports could total within a half million bales of their respective 1976/77 levels of 6.7 and 4.8 million bales.

LARGE 1977 COTTON CROP WILL RESULT IN HIGHER CARRYOVER

Mil. Bales *
16



* 480-pound net weight bales. ▲ Ending carryover.

Domestic cotton consumption will be limited by continuing lackluster textile activity for the next several months. For the entire season, U.S. mill use of around 6.8 million bales is indicated.

On the export front, recent relatively strong foreign demand for U.S. cotton has already resulted in the sale of nearly 4 million bales for delivery this season. However, sales are expected to slow in coming months as large foreign crops are marketed. U.S. shipments may total about 4.6 million bales during 1977/78. *Russell G. Barlowe, (202) 447-8776*

Tobacco Crop Smaller. Prices Rise

Sharply higher prices for flue-cured tobacco in all grades in recent weeks have raised the season average to \$1.07 per pound through August 23—and with further strength in prices likely, this season's average will exceed the support average of \$1.14 and run substantially above last season's average of \$1.11. Two reasons for the recent rise are: (1) better quality of marketings—more middle and upper stalk tobacco and less nondescript being marketed; and (2) the drought-reduced flue-cured crop was estimated on August 1 to be down 23 percent from last season and 12 percent below the July 1 estimate.

Currently about one-third (360 million pounds) of the estimated 1,013 million pound crop has been marketed with about 10 percent being placed under loan this year (versus 25 percent at this time last season).

Burley tobacco production was estimated at 630 million pounds August 1. Although indicated production is down 8 percent, the 1977 crop will be about 6 percent larger than anticipated use in the marketing year ending September 30. *Dick Hall, (202) 447-7290*

Noncitrus Fruit Production Up, Prices Firm

Noncitrus fruit production for 1977 is forecast at 11 million tons, slightly above 1976. If the forecast is realized, larger apple, grape, tart cherry, and prune and plum crops will more than offset smaller crops of apricots, sweet cherries, nectarines, peaches, and pears.

The U.S. commercial apple crop, forecast at 6.9 billion pounds, will be about 8 percent more than 1976's freeze-damaged crop. While growers' prices for the 1977 apple crop were not well established in early August, prices are expected to be near year-earlier levels.

Processor demand is expected to be strong as the carryover of processed apple products is below normal. In addition, the demand for fresh apples will be strong both at home and abroad. Fresh apple exports will continue good during 1977/78 as apple crops in Western and Southern Europe are expected to be substantially lower than last year.

The first forecast of the 1977 U.S. grape crop in August showed a record 4.4 million short tons, 3 percent more than last season. California's total crop may be up 7 percent from last year—with a slight decline for raisin varieties, offset by sizable increases for wine and table varieties.

Supplies of grapes for fresh market are expected to be smaller than indicated by the production forecast because the market for competing uses is expected to be very active.

Only slightly larger supplies and strong demand are expected to keep fresh grape prices moderately higher than last year. F.o.b. prices for Thompson seedless grapes from the Kern District of California were priced at \$10.20 per 23-pound lug in early August, compared with \$6.40 a year earlier.

Production of all pears was forecast at 775,900 tons on August 1, down 8 percent from last year. Shipments of Bartletts through early August were substantially behind last season's pace because of the later season. Opening f.o.b. prices were moderately above a year ago. With a smaller crop and good demand for canned pears, prices are likely to hold moderately above a year earlier. *Ben Huang and Jules V. Powell, (202) 447-7133*

Fall Potato

Acreage Above Earlier Intentions

The U.S. fall potato acreage has turned out substantially larger than earlier intentions had suggested. Acreage is now estimated at 1.15 million, 1 percent more than last fall, versus an expected cut of 4 percent.

With generally favorable growing conditions in most of the major growing areas, tonnage nearly equal to last year may be expected. This would suggest a weak price pattern this fall because export outlets will be limited, and of even greater importance, processing demand will not be as strong as last year. On August 1, stocks of frozen potato products were 18 percent larger than a year earlier.

The first sweetpotato production forecast calls for 12.1 million hundredweight, 12 percent less than 1976. With the carryover of canned sweets only moderate, the industry might choose to pack more than a year earlier. However, canners may limit the increase as they probably will be paying more for their raw product.

Average grower prices for sweetpotatoes going for fresh and processed uses are expected to be at least moderately higher this fall. *Charles Porter and Joseph Podany, (202) 447-8666*

Egg Production Near Last Year's Level

Egg production may about match year-earlier levels during October-December. Layer numbers relative to 1976 were down about 1 percent on August 1, but will gain in coming months. The hatch of egg-type chicks 5-6 months earlier indicate that around 4 percent more replacement pullets than a year ago will enter the laying flock during the balance of 1977. Also, output per hen is expected to pick up and exceed a year earlier because of a much younger laying flock.

Egg prices will strengthen seasonally in coming months and the price spread between large and mediums will narrow. During the summer, hot weather, combined with increased numbers of pullets entering the laying flock, caused a larger than normal percentage of medium size eggs to be marketed and resulted in abnormally wide price spreads between large and medium eggs—a 16 cents a dozen price spread during July.

Egg prices paid by retailers for cartoned grade A large at New York this fall are expected to remain several cents below the 78 cents a dozen average for October-December 1976. Retail prices for large grade A eggs during October-December may average around 3 to 5 cents below the 90 cents a dozen paid a year earlier.

With large grain and soybean crops in prospect and a return to more normal weather patterns, broiler production this fall may be up 3 to 5 percent from a year ago. Relatively strong broiler prices and declining feed prices during the summer probably will result in continued expansion into 1978.

Broiler prices may decline seasonally this fall but higher than year-earlier red meat prices are expected to hold wholesale broiler prices 3 to 5 cents above the 35.5 cents for October-December 1976.

Turkey meat output may about match a year ago during October-December, and prices are expected to gain seasonally and average in the low to mid-50-cent range this fall. *William Cathcart and Gerald Rector, (202) 447-8801*

Price Relationships Encourage Sizable Gains in Milk Production

Farm milk prices are being buoyed by the support price and will average well above a year earlier during the rest of 1977 and the first half of 1978. Meanwhile, feed prices will be quite moderate if the projected yields materialize. The resultant milk-feed price relationships would be very favorable and output per cow probably will continue to show strong gains.

The higher milk prices and large numbers of replacement heifers should limit declines in milk cow numbers. At midyear, there were 36.5 replacements per 100 milk cows in the herd, a very high ratio.

Milk production during the rest of this year probably will post sizable gains and may run about parallel to last year's surging output. The year-to-year gains in the first half of 1978 could be about the same or a little stronger.

With heavy milk output and large commercial dairy stocks, farm milk prices are not likely to move much above support level through next year's flush season, even if sales expand briskly. However, they will average well above year-earlier levels. If proposed legislation becomes law, the minimum support level will be 80 percent of parity through March 1979. *James J. Miller, (202) 447-8915*



Beef Production in 1978 and Beyond

by James Nix, Commodity Economics Division, Economic Research Service

The rapid rate of herd liquidation that has been occurring in this downturn of the cattle cycle is leading to lower beef supplies. Liquidation contributed to record high beef production in 1976 and production this year is also large, down only about 3 percent from last year.

Liquidation of the cow herd may continue into 1978 but it will probably cease during the year. Even with additional liquidation in 1978, beef production will likely decline from the 1977 level.

July Inventory Implications

The July 1 inventory of all cattle and calves at 130.6 million head was down 3.0 million head (2 percent) from a year earlier. This was less than half the decrease in inventory between July 1, 1975 and July 1, 1976. This year's decline was also less than the trade had anticipated.

The sharpest declines were reported for beef breeding stock—cows and replacement heifers. The July 1 beef cow inventory was about 4 percent lower than a year earlier, while the number of beef replacement heifers was cut 10 percent.

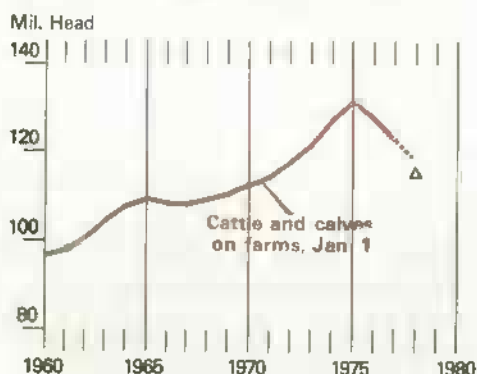
These reductions in the beef breeding herd reflect the severe financial conditions confronting cow-calf producers—and they are a signal that beef supplies likely will be declining in the next few years.

The midyear estimate of the 1977 calf crop was placed at 46.1 million head, down 3 percent from last year and the smallest since 1970. A larger portion of the expected 1977 calf crop was born during January-June this year than in recent years. This is one reason why the July 1 inventory of all cattle and calves may have been higher than most had expected it to be.

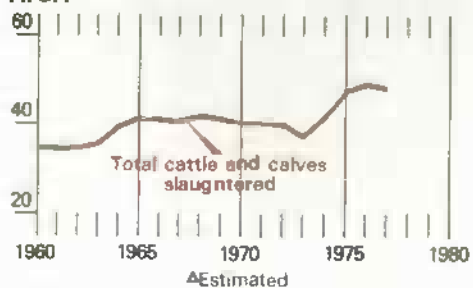
Feeder cattle supplies continue relatively plentiful. Calves under 500 pounds on July 1 were down only 2 percent from the year before. After subtracting the July 1 number of calves on feed that weighed less than 500 pounds, there were 37.9 million calves outside feedlots, only 2 percent less than last year's 38.9 million head. Because a larger portion of the calves were born during the first 6 months of this year than in recent years, there should be a sharp decline in the under 500-pound feeder cattle supply between now and January 1, 1978.

A slight increase was reported at midyear for the number of steers weighing 500 pounds and over plus the heifers (exclusive of replacements) weighing over 500 pounds. After subtracting the July 1 number of steers and heifers on feed that weighed over 500 pounds, a 3-percent increase in yearlings outside feedlots is noted. This larger supply of heavy yearlings can continue to supply feedlots with heavier animals for placement and also contribute to a relatively high non-fed slaughter during the last half of this year. This larger supply of yearlings will likely keep July-December beef supplies relatively high and pressure on prices.

CATTLE INVENTORY CONTINUES TO DECLINE...



... AS SLAUGHTER CONTINUES HIGH



The inventory will likely continue to decline during the remainder of the year. Liquidation during the last half of this year, however, will probably not be as large as it was a year earlier. A projected cattle and calf slaughter of around 47 million head is indicated for 1977. This figure, along with the smaller calf crop and a slightly higher death loss points to a January 1, 1978 inventory of all cattle and calves somewhere between 117 and 118 million head. This would be a year-to-year decline of about 5 to 6 million head and it would put the inventory at about the same level as it was in 1972.

Likely Developments Next Year

The estimated January 1, 1978, inventory of 117 to 118 million head is about the same as it was in 1972 when per capita beef consumption was 116.1 pounds. However, continued liquidation during 1978, in contrast to 1972, could lead to 1978 beef consumption that is 2 or 3 pounds per person larger than in 1972. But next year's beef consumption likely will be smaller than this year's.

With rising consumer income, reduced supplies of domestic beef in 1978 will likely result in higher beef prices. However, increased supplies of both pork and broilers are expected next year and this will limit beef price gains.

Prospects for a large corn and soybean crop are encouraging to cattlemen. With larger feed supplies indicated for 1978, feed prices will be considerably below those of early 1977. Reduced feed prices will further stimulate the cattle feeding industry, particularly as fed cattle prices rise. This in turn will lead to higher feeder cattle prices which will help stop the beef cow herd liquidation.

Beef production during 1978 will probably contain a higher percentage of fed beef output than it has in the past few years. Cow and nonfed steer and heifer slaughter will likely drop sharply next year unless widespread drought occurs. This would likely mean larger increases in ground beef prices than in the Choice cuts.

Beef Production Beyond 1978

Beef producers and consumers alike have a major concern about weather developments in important cattle States.

Favorable weather and adequate food supplies through 1980 could bring better

times for many financially troubled cattle producers, while persistent drought and generally poor weather along with short feed supplies would have adverse effects for both producers and consumers.

Projections under two alternatives will provide insights into how the cattle industry might react under sharply different weather conditions. However, they represent only two of many possible situations that could develop.

Alternative 1: Improved Moisture Conditions

This alternative assumes adequate grazing and feed grain supplies and more favorable product/feed prices ratios than those of the past year.

Total cattle and calf slaughter, estimated at about 47 million head in 1977, is projected to exceed the 1977 crop for the second year in a row. Prior to 1976, total slaughter had not exceeded the calf crop for any year since 1947. Without a significant change from last year in live cattle imports and exports, or in death losses, this situation will lead to a sharp decline in the cattle inventory.

Alternative 1 assumes that the inventory reductions that have already taken place and the high slaughter rates would moderate in 1978—and with improved grazing and grain supplies, the cattle industry should become more economically healthy than it has been during the past few years. The 1978 calf crop may nearly match slaughter and death losses. This would result in the cattle herd stabilizing at a low of about 116 million head by 1979.

Per capita beef production in this alternative would likely decline through 1980 to a level being 10 to 14 percent below that of 1976. With continued growth in demand for beef, retail prices would rise. The price rise, however, would likely be moderated by large supplies of pork and poultry.

Alternative 2: Drought Persists

This alternative assumes poor growing conditions for forages for late 1977 and early 1978 followed by good growing conditions through 1980. This would imply reduced hay supplies and high prices in 1978, with increased supplies of feedstuffs and declining prices in 1979 and 1980.

This alternative is viewed as one that could occur if drought and poor growing conditions continue to plague cattlemen. Poor growing conditions and reduced forage supplies would cause a continued heavy liquidation. Many cattlemen faced with a tight financial situation and rising costs for feedstuffs would be forced to further reduce the size of their herds.

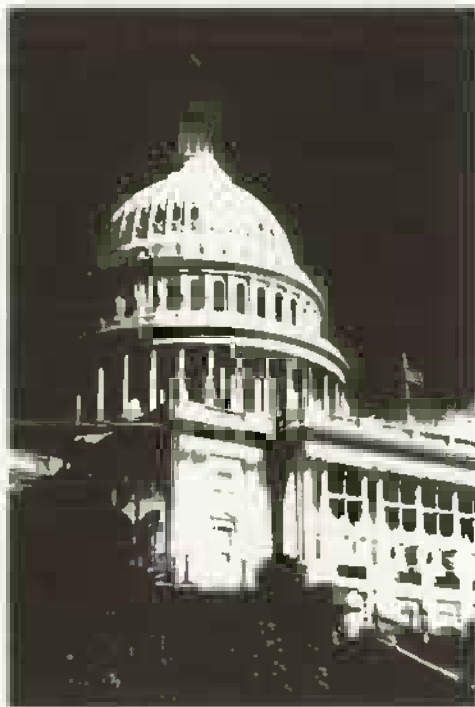
This alternative depicts a situation where slaughter rates would continue high during much of 1978, and then be much lower during the rebuilding phase of the cattle cycle. Low calving rates and high death loss rates would continue during liquidation followed by higher calving rates and lower death losses during the upturn of the cycle.

Per capita beef production under this alternative would hold up well in 1978, but would decline sharply in 1979 and 1980. Under this alternative, per capita beef production by 1980 could run around a fifth below 1976.

Short beef supplies following initial heavy liquidation would likely result in much higher beef prices. Prices could be high enough to cause consumers to turn to other kinds of meats. Under these conditions, higher cattle prices would likely trigger a rapid, expansion in the cattle industry.

Next Few Months Crucial

With the sizable reduction in the cattle inventory during the past several years, weather conditions between now and next spring will largely determine when cattlemen will begin to take steps to halt the liquidation which will determine pattern of beef consumption well into the 1980's.



Policy Developments

Agreement has been reached by House and Senate conferees on a new farm bill to continue crop price supports and other farm programs for another 4 years. The compromise bill will go back to the full House and Senate in September, and, if approved, will then go to the President for signature. Price and income supports for 1977 and 1978 crops generally followed those in the House bill.

Although the proposed legislation is, basically for the 1978-81 crop years, some 1977 support prices were revised. Proposed target prices and minimum loan rates for 1978 are shown in the accompanying table, with specified changes for 1977 for wheat and feed grains.

Feed and Food Grain Supports Raised

Under the proposed bill, the wheat target for 1978 would be \$3.00 per bushel if the 1978 crop exceeded 1.8 billion bushels, or \$3.05 if the crop is equal to or smaller than that amount. All target prices, including rice and cotton, could be escalated after 1978

based on changes in variable costs, machinery costs, and general farm overhead costs. Changes in land costs and returns to management would not be included. Target prices for sorghum, and if designated, barley and oats will be determined at a rate that is fair and reasonable in relation to the rate available for corn.

Wheat and corn minimum loan levels would be \$2.35 and \$2.00, respectively, for the 4-year period 1978-81 unless the national season average price does not exceed 105 percent of the loan in the preceding year. In that event, the Secretary of Agriculture could lower the loan as much as 10 percent per year but no lower than a floor of \$2.00 for wheat and \$1.75 for corn. However, if the loan levels were lowered, the Secretary would be required to compensate farmers for any loss of income by increasing deficiency payments. Any such increases in deficiency payments would not be subject to payment limitations.

Wheat and feed grain deficiency payments would be based on a producer's share of the national program acreage (number of harvested acres needed to meet domestic and export use and to accomplish any desired increase or decrease in carryover levels), but not less than 80 percent of the harvested acreage of the program crops in the current year. Eligible producers voluntarily reducing their acreage consistent with the Secretary's recommendation would be paid on 100 percent of their harvested acreage.

Set-aside for wheat and feed grains for the 1978-81 crops could be implemented as a percentage of current year plantings.

TARGET PRICES AND MINIMUM LOAN RATES

	Current	Changes proposed in 1977 Act	
		1977	1978
Target Prices			
Wheat (\$/bu.)	2.47	2.90	¹ 3.00
Corn (\$/bu.)	1.70	2.00	2.10
Cotton (cts./lb.) . .	47.8	—	² 52.0
Rice (\$/cwt.)	8.25	—	² 8.35
Loan levels			
Wheat (\$/bu.)	2.25	—	2.35
Corn (\$/bu.)	1.75	2.00	2.00
Cotton (cts./lb.) . .	42.58	—	² 47.0
Soybeans (\$/bu.)	3.50	—	(³)
Rice (\$/cwt.)	6.19	—	² 6.27
Peanuts (\$/ton) ⁴	430.50	—	420.00

¹ \$3.05 if 1978 crop is equal to or less than 1.8 billion bushels. ² Estimated. ³ At the Secretary's discretion. ⁴ On quota base.

Minimum rice loan levels would be raised the same percentage as target price increases, except that the loan levels can be adjusted downward (no lower than \$6.31 per hundredweight) to keep rice competitive in world markets.

Soybean Program Mandated

A soybean loan and purchase program would be mandatory for the first time, the loan would be at the discretion of the Secretary. Target prices and deficiency payments would not be authorized.

New Cotton Program Tied to Planted Acreage

Under the new cotton program beginning with the 1978 crop, all benefits would be tied to acres planted for harvest rather than the old allotment system. The loan price for cotton would be set at the lower of 85 percent of the U.S. spot price (4 preceding marketing years' moving average price at average location in the United States for Strict Low Middling (SLM) 1-1/16-inch cotton) or 90 percent of the world price (the average adjusted price for the five lowest quotes for Strict Middling 1-1/16-inch cotton, c.i.f. Northern Europe) for the first 2 weeks of October.

Announcement of the loan level would be required no later than November 1 for the next marketing year. The present 10-month loan period would be continued, and an additional 8-month loan period would be available to producers except when the average price of SLM 1-1/16-inch cotton is 130 percent of the average price for the preceding 3 years.

Cotton set-aside could be implemented as a percentage of current plantings, but could not exceed 28 percent of a producer's planted acreage.

Payments to Producers Limited

Under the proposed bill, the total of all deficiency payments for wheat, feed grains, and upland cotton would be limited to \$40,000 per producer in 1978 and \$45,000 in 1979. (Deficiency payment is the difference between the target price and market price, or the target price and loan rate, whichever is the lower.) Deficiency payments to rice producers would be limited to \$52,250 in 1978 and \$50,000 in 1979. In 1980 and 1981, total deficiency payments for all four crops would be limited to \$50,000.

The current limitation of \$20,000 will remain in effect for the combined wheat, feed grain, and cotton deficiency payments for the 1977 crops, including all disaster payments. Beginning in 1978, however, disaster payments would be exempt from the limitations.

Disaster Payments Available

Disaster program provisions based on acres planted for harvest for wheat, feed grains, and cotton would be available for prevented planting and low yields for 1978 and 1979 crops. By the end of the 1979 crop year, the Administration plans to have a revised program of national crop insurance available to replace the disaster program.

New Peanut Program Proposed

Beginning with the 1978 crop, the new peanut program would establish a two-price system for peanuts. A national allotment of 1.61 million acres would be the minimum assigned to allotment holders for total peanut production of quota and "additional" (nonquota) peanuts.

Minimum poundage quotas would decrease from 1.68 million short tons in 1978 to 1.44 million tons in 1981. Minimum loans on peanuts included in the national quota would be \$420 per ton, an effective increase from the \$430.50 level announced for 1977 because \$20 is deducted for storage and handling from the present rate. Loan levels for nonquota peanuts would be set by the Secretary.

Sugar Supports Back

Sugar price supports would be reinstated by the proposed bill. The prices of the 1978 and most of the 1977 crops of sugar beets and sugarcane would be supported at not less than 52.5 nor more than 65 percent of parity, and not less than 13.5 cents per pound (raw sugar equivalent). The bill also directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish minimum wage rates for agricultural employees engaged in sugar production.

Dairy Supports Set

Minimum dairy price supports would be set at 80 percent of parity from the date of enactment until March 31, 1979, and revert to basic legislation (minimum of 75 percent) for the remainder of the period to March 31, 1981. Support price adjustments would be required semiannually through March 31, 1981. Dairy indemnity payments to producers would be extended, including payments for losses due to nuclear radiation or fallout. Indemnity payments to manufacturers would be discontinued.

Wool Supports Boosted

The National Wool Act of 1954 would be renewed for 4 years and the support raised to 85 percent of the formula specified in the Act for the period January 1, 1977, to December 31, 1981. This would increase the present support of 72 cents per pound to 99 cents for 1977 and raise it to an estimated \$1.32 by 1981.

Grain Reserves Authorized

Producer-held wheat and feed grain reserves, including 300 to 700 million bushels of wheat, would be authorized through 3- to 5-year loan extensions. As an incentive to encourage participation in the program, the Government could pay the storage costs and adjust or waive interest charges.

Loans redeemed before market prices reached specified minimum levels would be subject to a penalty. When prices exceeded a specified maximum level, the Secretary could call the loans. For wheat, loans redeemed before the market price reached a minimum of 140 percent of the loan level would be subject to a penalty. When the average market price of wheat became 140 to 160 percent of the loan level, the Secretary could stop the storage payments and charge interest to encourage farmers to repay their loans. If the wheat market price reached 175 percent of current price support level, the Secretary could recall the loan.

Under extended loan program, Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) resale prices would be 150 percent of the current loan—115 percent in the absence of such programs.

Farm Storage Facility Loans Assured

Loans to growers for construction of facilities for farm storage of dry or high-moisture grain, soybeans, and rice and high-moisture forage and silage would be made available by the Secretary of Agriculture. Loans for up to 10 years not to exceed \$50,000 would be authorized, including funds for structural and equipment foundations, electrical systems, grain handling systems, drying equipment, and site preparation or remodeling costs.

Interest rates are to be based on interest charged the CCC by the U.S. Treasury. Loans are to be secured and payments can be deducted from any payments made to farmers from the CCC.

Food Stamp Program Revised

A major feature of the bill is a provision eliminating the existing requirement that almost all households receiving food stamps spend some of their income to purchase the stamps. This provision is expected to simplify and lower the cost of program administration.

The major objectives of the food stamp section are to simplify and tighten program administration and reduce fraud and abuse, to facilitate participation of the needy, to hold program costs close to current levels, and to minimize the loss of benefits to current needy participants.

Other Program Authorized

The bill would also authorize expand agricultural research and extension programs; extend Public Law 480; and encourage research on agricultural solar energy, methods of aiding small farms, and wheat foods and nutrition education.

Drought Relief Aids Farmers

To aid farmers and ranchers hit by drought, more than 40 Federal programs have been providing loans, grants, indemnity payments, and other types of drought assistance to State and local governments, households, farmers, and private businesses. (A directory listing these programs, the eligibility requirements, and the agency to contact is available from the Institute of Policy Research, Western Governors Policy Office, 2480 West 26th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80211).

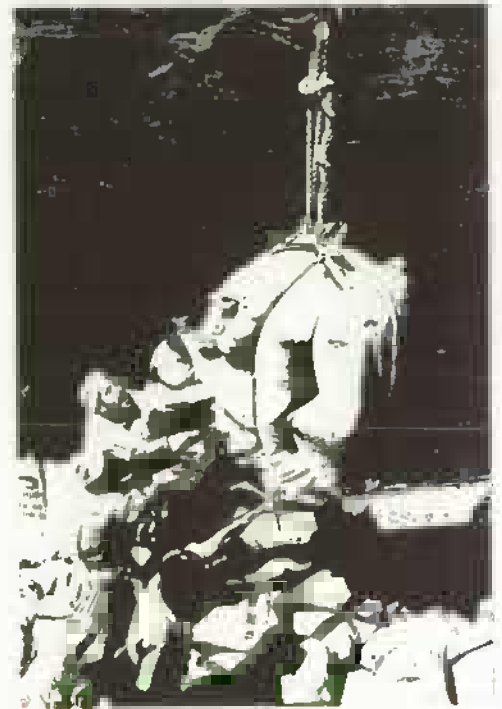
Earlier this year, special drought relief programs totaling almost \$1 billion were authorized. About half (\$475 million) was designated for agriculture. Funds were earmarked for the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC).

Agricultural programs included \$100 million to FmHA for special drought emergency loans to farmers and ranchers, plus \$150 million in loans and \$75 million in grants for short-term water assistance to communities of less than 10,000 population. All of the special drought emergency loans had been obligated as of August 12. In addition to these special funds, more than \$600 million in other drought-related loans had been advanced in FmHA's emergency loan program through July. Of the monies appropriated for short-term water assistance, \$26 million in loans and \$18 million in grants had been approved as of August 4.

Congress also appropriated \$100 million in supplementary funds to be used as grants by ASCS for drought-related soil and water conservation measures. By the end of July, requests for emergency assistance for 24 States (mostly west of the Mississippi River) totaled over \$160 million. An additional \$50 million in funds became available when the fiscal 1978 USDA appropriation bill was signed into law in August. By mid-August, almost \$20 million of the extra funding had been obligated to Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Also included in USDA's total share of drought assistance was \$50 million to increase the capital stock of the FCIC. This was necessary to meet obligations of indemnity payments for the 1976 crop year (primarily due to drought) because the premium reserve and the capital stock fund had been drawn down for administrative costs in previous years.

Other USDA agencies are administering drought-relief programs which are not included in the supplemental appropriations. For instance, the Soil Conservation Service is providing special assistance to farmers and ranchers with drought-related problems and has diverted over 400 man-years from ongoing programs to work on the drought and flood conservation program with ASCS. Cecil W. Davison, (202) 447-8840



World Agriculture and Trade

U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1978, which begins October 1, 1977, are expected to drop below the \$24 billion estimated for fiscal 1977—perhaps by 5 to 10 percent. Prospective large world crops and lower prices for many important commodities will be primarily responsible. Total export tonnage may also dip marginally below this year's projected 100 million tons.

Wheat exports are forecast to increase from fiscal 1977's 23½ million tons, but this rise likely will be more than offset by a significant decline in feed grain exports from this year's 50 million tons.

Soybean exports are expected to rise 5 to 10 percent from fiscal 1977's prospective 15½ million tons, but the total value may drop because of lower export prices. Cotton exports are projected at around 4.7 million bales—about the same as the fiscal 1977 estimate—but recent prices indicate the total value will be sharply lower. Preliminary indications point to volume declines for exports of tobacco and fats and oils.

The value of U.S. farm product exports may slip to most major markets in fiscal 1978. Some declines in export values are expected to Western Europe, Japan, and the USSR.

Fiscal 1978 should show the first significant U.S. agricultural exports to the People's Republic of China (PRC) since 1975. So far, the PRC has bought almost 200,000 bales of U.S. cotton for 1977/78 delivery, and some additional sales seem possible.

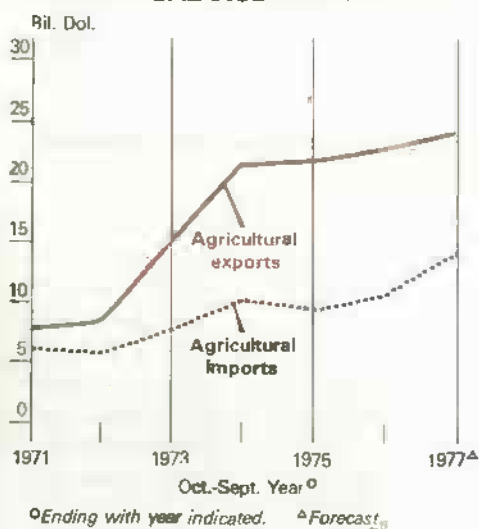
Much uncertainty exists concerning the actual level of agricultural exports in fiscal 1978. The final outcome of the 1977 crops here and abroad will have a strong influence on exports. Moreover, pending U.S. farm policy will impact prices and export levels. Prospects for next year's crops will also influence import decisions during the final months of fiscal 1978.

Fiscal 1977 U.S. Farm Exports Forecast Up 5 Percent

U.S. agricultural exports in fiscal 1977 are expected to total over \$1 billion or 5 percent above 1975/76's \$22.8 billion. However, grain export value may be down about a fifth. For the first 9 months of fiscal 1977, total export value was 9 percent above a year earlier.

Along with volume and value gains for cotton and soybeans, exports of many other commodities are running significantly larger in fiscal 1977; examples include dairy and poultry products, vegetables, rice, and fats and oils.

U.S. FARM EXPORTS EXPECTED TO REACH \$24 BILLION; BUT TRADE BALANCE NARROWS



Feed grain exports will total near last year's volume, as larger shipments to Western Europe, East Asia and Japan, and the Middle East offset the sharp reduction in exports to the Soviet Union. Wheat export volume may drop more than a fifth, with reduced shipments to South America, South Asia, the European Community, and Japan.

A volume increase of about 40 percent is anticipated for fiscal 1977 cotton exports. Exports will be substantially higher to most traditional markets, and large shipments were also made to India and Egypt—normally cotton exporters.

Soybean exports should marginally exceed the 1975/76 volume despite substantially smaller U.S. supplies. The USSR, Japan, and other East Asian countries will provide the increase. Exports to the European Community will drop about 5 percent.

Agricultural Imports Boom in Fiscal 1977

Fiscal 1977 U.S. agricultural imports may reach \$14 billion, up from \$10.5 billion in 1975/76. Much of the increase will be due to higher prices for coffee and other tropical products.

Imports of numerous other commodities—fruits, vegetables, wines and malt beverages, spices, tobacco, and vegetable oils—will also be up in value. Sugar imports are expected to increase about a tenth in volume, but prices are substantially lower. Meat imports will decline about a tenth.

The U.S. agricultural trade surplus for fiscal 1977 may decline to about \$10 billion from the \$12½ billion of a year earlier.

The value of U.S. agricultural imports is not expected to change much in fiscal 1978. *Sally Breedlove Byrne (202) 447-8261*

Record Trade Deficit in Prospect¹

Despite a large agricultural trade surplus, the United States is facing the prospect of a \$20-\$25 billion deficit in its total foreign trade balance this calendar year. This deficit would follow 1975's \$10-billion surplus and 1976's record \$8-billion deficit. Trade deficits are a relatively new phenomenon for the United States, with the first significant one occurring in 1971.

¹ Based in part on an article in *Commerce America*, August 1977, U.S. Department of Commerce.

The trade balance is the bottom line for the vast array of international commodity transactions. The U.S. Department of Commerce classifies commodities into nine groups and, in all except two of these categories, the United States regularly realizes a trade surplus.

Besides the agricultural product groups, large trade surpluses are expected for machinery and chemicals. During the first 6 months of 1977, both machinery and chemical exports were almost double the import values.

The automobile import trend has captured headlines, but there is a trade surplus in transport equipment because of our strong exports of aircraft and trucks. A deficit exists in trade of "Other Manufactured Goods," which consist of consumer goods, semi-manufactures, and other industrial inputs. Metals, clothing and textiles, and footwear are the largest imports in this category.

Petroleum imports have created the greatest concern in recent years. Growth in U.S. import demand and substantial price boosts by the oil-exporting countries have created a tremendous increase in U.S. expenditures for foreign oil.

Imports of petroleum and petroleum products totaled about 2.6 billion barrels valued at almost \$32 billion during 1976, compared with 1.24 billion barrels and under \$3 billion in 1970.

During the first 6 months of 1977, the United States recorded commodity exports of about \$61 billion and imports of nearly \$73 billion, for a deficit of \$11.8 billion. A \$200-million surplus was recorded during January-June 1976. On a seasonally adjusted annual basis, the trade deficit totaled around \$25 billion.

Behind the 6-month trade figures are a 7-percent gain for exports and a 26-percent gain for imports from a year earlier. Imports of petroleum and products jumped 34 percent in volume and 47 percent in value. Green coffee imports more than doubled in value. The export picture was mixed. Sharp declines were recorded for numerous products, including iron and steel products and metal-working machinery, but such commodities as cotton, soybeans, nuclear material, and computers jumped dramatically.

The rate of import growth should slow during the second half of the year. Reduced volume will about offset higher prices for petroleum. Imports of the other boom commodity, coffee, are expected to turn down. But the domestic economic expansion may boost imports of machinery and industrial supplies, especially metals. Passenger car imports will accelerate in order to build inventories. The total value of food imports will remain high.

U.S. exports are likely to remain slack during the second half of 1977, with agricultural exports falling. The leading expansionary exports should be electronic computers, cooling equipment, and electric power machinery. Increases are also expected for shipments of automobiles, chemicals, and aluminum.

The major cause of our massive trade deficit is an economy that is expanding faster than those of most key industrial countries and many developing countries. As a result, U.S. consumers and industry are increasing their purchases of domestic and imported goods more quickly than the demand for our exports is growing.

Because of the strength of the U.S. economy, the 1977 trade deficit is not expected to force a substantial reduction in the value of the dollar. The foreign exchange rate is also a function of the inflation and interest rates and the flow of invisibles—investment, foreign aid, travel, and freight charges.

The rate of exchange of the U.S. dollar, weighted by the values of currencies of our major trading partners, declined only marginally during the first half of the year. *Sally Breedlove Byrne (202) 447-8261*

Timetable Set for MTN Completion

Recent discussions between the United States and other major participants resulted in a timetable aimed at bringing the Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTN) to a successful conclusion in 1978.

According to the timetable, by October 1, 1977, MTN countries will agree on a comprehensive tariff plan. Included in the plan will be a tariff-cutting formula, language concerning the treatment of agriculture, procedures for tariff negotiations with non-formula countries, an agreed basis for special and differential treatment of developing countries, and procedures for handling several technical issues.

U.S. FOREIGN TRADE: VALUE BY COMMODITY GROUP, JANUARY-JUNE 1976 AND 1977¹

	Exports			Imports			Trade balance	
	1976	1977	Change	1976	1977	Change	1976	1977
	Mil. dol.		Percent	Mil. dol.		Percent	Mil. dol.	
Food & live animals	7,627	7,090	-7	4,900	6,911	+41	+2,727	+179
Grains & preparations	5,378	4,477	-17	—	—	—	—	—
Green coffee	—	—	—	1,151	2,534	+120	—	—
Beverages & tobacco	744	840	+13	840	817	-3	-96	+23
Tobacco, unmanufactured . . .	452	483	+7	285	189	-34	—	—
Crude materials	5,226	7,141	+37	3,217	3,814	+19	+2,009	+3,327
Cotton	462	997	+116	—	—	—	—	—
Soybeans	1,587	2,600	+64	—	—	—	—	—
Mineral fuels	2,039	2,003	-2	15,609	22,708	+45	-13,570	-20,705
Animal & vegetable oils & fats .	483	663	+37	220	300	+36	+263	+363
Chemicals	4,908	5,404	+10	2,250	2,788	+24	+2,658	+2,616
Machinery	16,046	16,901	+5	7,119	8,674	+22	+8,927	+8,227
Transport equipment	8,788	8,988	+2	7,617	8,661	+14	+1,171	+327
Other manufactured goods . . .	8,965	9,421	+5	13,799	16,917	+23	-4,834	-7,496
Other transactions ²	2,124	2,627	—	1,169	1,310	—	—	—
Total	56,950	61,078	+7	56,741	72,900	+28	+209	-11,822
Agricultural commodities . . .	11,320	12,829	+13	5,480	7,546	+38	+5,840	+5,283
Nonagricultural commodities . . .	45,630	48,249	+6	51,260	65,354	+27	-5,630	-17,105
Manufactured goods	38,706	40,714	+5	30,786	37,041	+20	+7,920	+3,673

¹ Exports include reexports and exclude military grant-aid. Exports are valued f.a.s. (free alongside ship) at port of export. ² Export data include reexports. Source: Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce.

On November 1, requests will be presented to the negotiating parties on all agricultural tariff and nontariff measures, all industrial nontariff measures, and non-formula industrial tariffs. Agricultural requests will be made on all products considered agricultural, including those covered by the Grains, Meat, and Dairy subgroups of Group Agriculture.

By December 15, countries will submit draft texts for the establishment of international codes such as standards, subsidies-countervailing duties, and government procurement.

On January 15, 1978, offers will be tabled on all agricultural and industrial products and measures. The final phase of the negotiations is scheduled to be completed in the spring of 1978. *James S. Chase, Jr. (202) 447-4218*

OPEC Surpluses Helping Finance World Trade While Building Large Debts . . .

The relatively strong revival in world trade since 1975's slump is being financed through a complicated arrangement to cover payment imbalances. Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are running trade surpluses that have averaged in excess of \$60 billion in 1974-76. A few strong countries such as Germany have also had large surpluses.

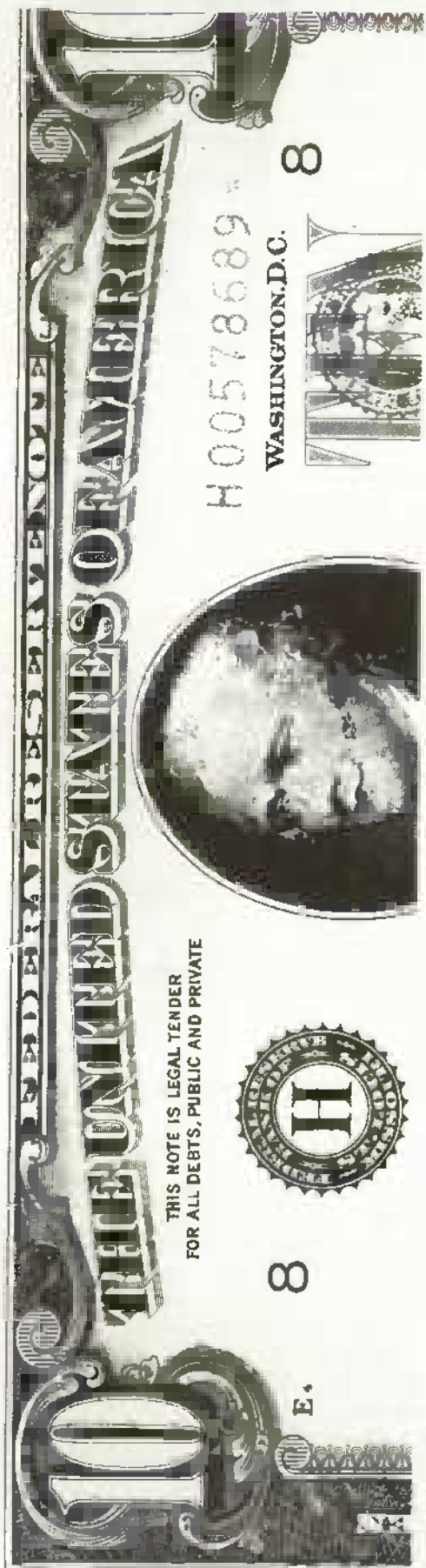
Of course, these big surpluses mean the rest of the world has faced trade deficits of the same magnitude. The recycling of the OPEC surplus to finance trade deficits has created debt problems for borrowing

countries.

Much of the OPEC current account surplus has been placed in liquid short-term investments in a few hard currency countries, chiefly the United States, Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. Private banks in these countries have, in turn, made loans to nations with balance of payments deficits, and other lenders have provided financing for countries without access to commercial credit.

The buildup of debts both in developed countries and a few developing countries has reached burdensome levels, so that the process may not be extended indefinitely.

Farm Income Trends



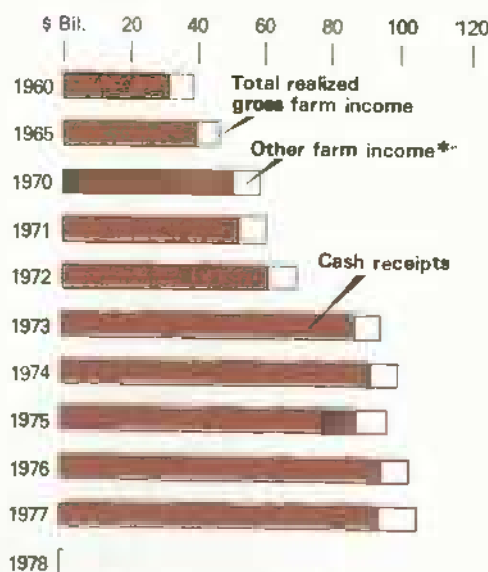
Cash receipts from marketings this year will likely be about the same as \$94 billion farmers received in 1976. Although first half cash receipts averaged above a year ago, second half prospects are not as encouraging. Depressed second half crop prices will push crop receipts several billion dollars below July-December 1976, but larger receipts from livestock and products should be offsetting.

Cash receipts from marketings of farm-produced commodities usually account for about 90 percent of realized gross farm income. However, farmers receive additional income in the form of government payments and from recreation, machine hire, and custom work. With prices of 1977-crop wheat and rice expected to average below their target prices, government payments to farmers are likely to be up around a billion dollars in 1977.

Government payments, which averaged around \$3½ billion per year during the 1966-72 period, came to only around \$0.7 billion annually the past 3 years. Strong world demand boosted grain and cotton prices well above target levels during this period.

Also included in farm income data are the rental value of farm dwellings and the value of farm products used in farm households. Although nonmoney in nature, the value of these items is nonetheless income to farmers. The value of farm dwellings keeps escalating, reflecting inflationary pressures throughout the economy.

FARMERS TO GROSS SLIGHTLY MORE THIS YEAR



* Includes government payments, value of farm products consumed in farm households, rental value of farm dwelling, and income from recreation, machine hire, and custom work.

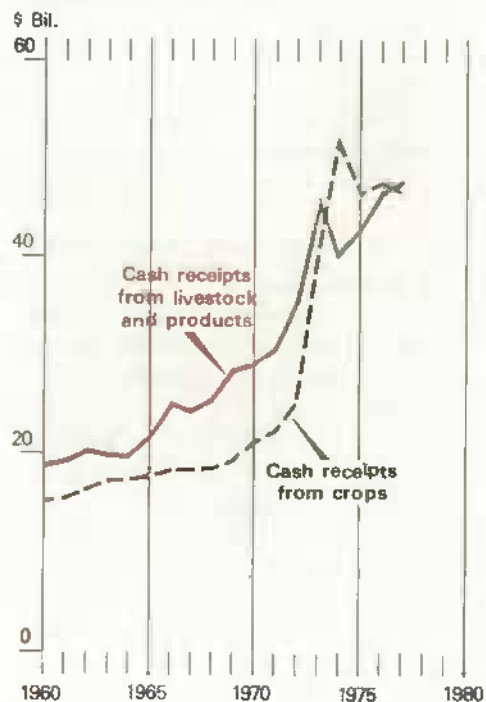
Farmers' gross incomes this year are expected to hit a new record high—1 percent or so more than 1976's \$103½ billion. Farm income has risen steadily over the years with farmers' gross income doubling during the past decade. However, most of this rise occurred in just 2 years—1972 and 1973—when grain prices and receipts were expanding sharply.

\$

Farmers' livestock receipts are expected to exceed their crop receipts this year. During the past 3 years, crops have been farmers' top moneymaker, although prior to that, and stretching all the way back to the 1920's, livestock and livestock products were in the lead position.

Recent years have seen farmers feeding a smaller proportion of their grain as they found it more profitable to market their grain directly rather than through livestock. However, with prices weaker for grain and stronger for livestock this year, we will probably see increased feeding of feed grains, wheat, and soybean meal during the second half of 1977 and into early next year.

LIVESTOCK RECEIPTS PULL AHEAD OF CROPS



Cash receipts from crop marketings are expected to be down about \$1½ billion from 1976's \$48 billion. Sharply higher prices for soybeans, cotton, and fresh vegetables held crop receipts above a year ago during early 1977, even though receipts from wheat and corn were down. However, crop prices have weakened in the face of prospective large crop harvests and second half crop receipts will be down from year-earlier levels.

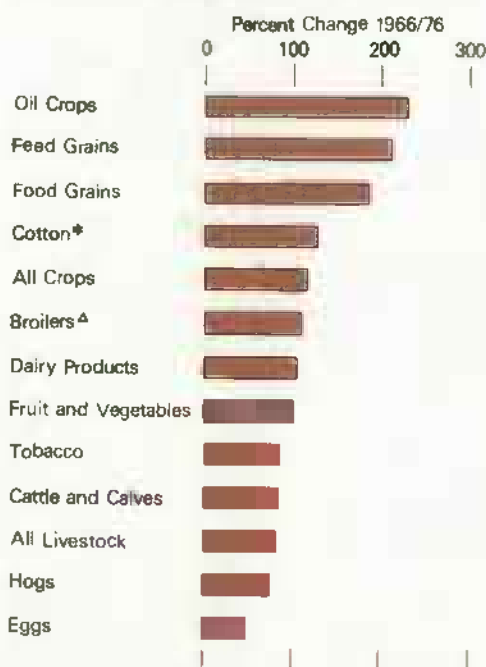
On the other hand, livestock receipts may be up around 2 percent in 1977. Production of livestock and products is expected to be down in the second half and prices will be rebounding from a year earlier.

§

During the past decade, farmers' cash receipts from soybeans, corn, and wheat have risen faster than for other crop commodities. Together, sales of grains and oilseeds now account for around \$29 billion, up from about \$9 billion in the mid-1960's. This resulted primarily from the large boost in export demand in the early 1970's and the corresponding rise in market prices.

Among livestock items, broilers and dairy products have shown the largest proportional gains—with cash receipts for both more than doubling during the past decade. Broiler production has been expanding during the period, spurred by the ready acceptance of more plentiful and relatively low priced chicken by consumers.

SOYBEAN, GRAIN RECEIPTS BIGGEST GAINERS IN PAST DECADE



*Includes lint and seed. ^ΔIncludes farm chickens.

Cattle and calves provide about a fifth of all cash receipts from farm marketings, keeping them in the top spot as a source of income to U.S. farmers, a position they have held since World War II. For the 20 years prior to that, dairy products were the leading source of farm income and in the 1910's and early 1920's cotton was frequently No. 1.

CATTLE STILL NO. 1 SOURCE OF FARM INCOME

Commodity	1966		1976	
	Cash receipts	Share of total	Cash receipts	Share of total
	\$ Mil.	Pct.	\$ Mil.	Pct.
Cattle and calves	10,430	24.0	19,421	20.6
Feed grains	4,334	10.0	13,475	14.3
Dairy products	5,533	12.7	11,425	12.1
Oil crops	2,703	6.2	8,855	9.4
Hogs	4,169	9.6	7,374	7.8
Food grains	2,373	5.5	6,799	7.2
Vegetables	2,612	6.0	5,281	5.6
Cotton (lint and seed)	1,588	3.7	3,552	3.8
Fruits and tree nuts	1,747	4.0	3,500	3.7
Eggs	2,106	4.8	3,156	3.3
Broilers and farm chickens	1,471	3.4	3,068	3.3
Tobacco	1,211	2.8	2,270	2.4
Other	3,158	7.3	6,150	6.5
Total	43,435	100.0	94,326	100.0

Dairy products have lost their No. 2 ranking to feed grains in recent years. In 1976, feed grain marketings accounted for around 14 percent of total cash receipts. At the same time, food grains and oil crops have moved up in importance. From 1966 to 1976, most livestock and products have lost ground relative to crops, particularly soybeans, corn, and wheat.

Although 1976 cash receipts were up about 7 percent from the previous year, not all farmers fared equally. Soybean and cotton receipts rose substantially as the tight supply-demand situation pushed prices up sharply. Receipts from feed grains rose somewhat as farmers harvested a record corn crop. Farm prices of milk and eggs averaged well above a year ago in 1976 and receipts from both enterprises totaled higher. On the other hand, wheat receipts fell almost a billion dollars as large crops and weaker export demand caused prices to fall. Hog

producers' returns were also off as prices averaged a tenth below 1975, more than offsetting larger slaughter.

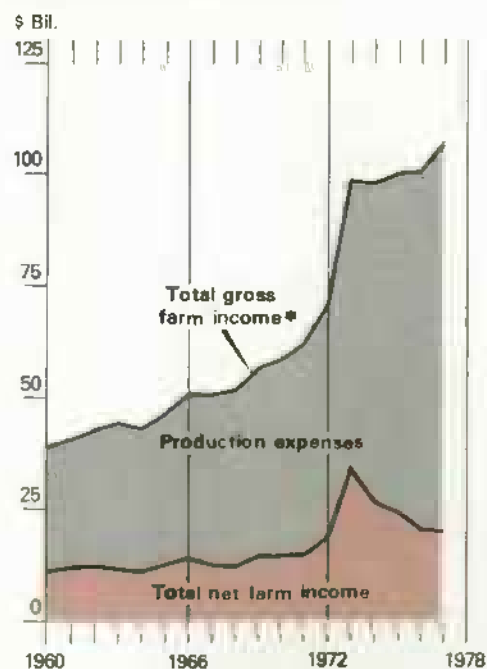
§

The uptrend in gross farm receipts has been paralleled by a steady rise in production expenses. In 1977, production expenses are expected to increase some 4 to 5 percent from 1976, thus offsetting gains in gross income. Over the 1966-76 decade, farm production expenses have more than doubled—rising from around \$37 billion to almost \$82 billion. Prices paid by farmers for production inputs have about doubled in the past 10 years—accounting for most of the increase.

Although total input use rose only slightly, the input mix used to produce food and fiber has shifted toward more purchased items. More capital, machinery, fertilizer, and pesticides are now used in farming, while labor has declined. Cropland used for crops trended down until the early 1960's. Then, after holding steady, cropland increased by about 40 million acres from 1972 to 1977.

Pending farm legislation proposes to support farm incomes through higher loan rates on feed grains and higher target prices on wheat for 1977 crops. Legislative modifications currently under consideration would leave total net farm income, including an allowance for the change in farmers' inventories, near last year's level.

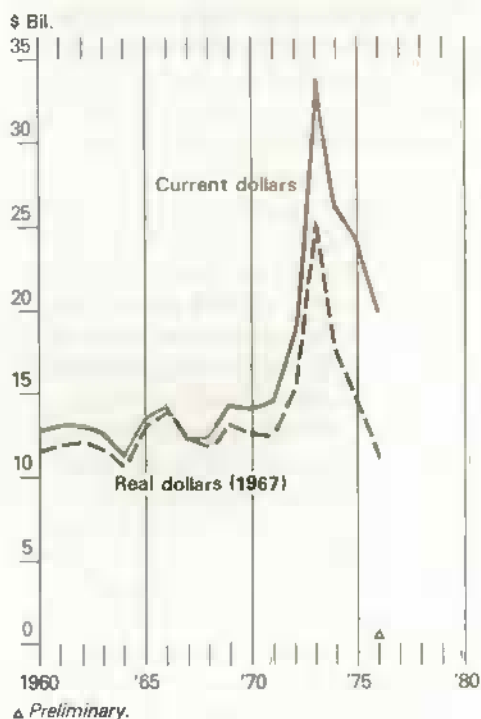
FARMERS GROSS MORE. BUT EXPENSES ALSO RISE



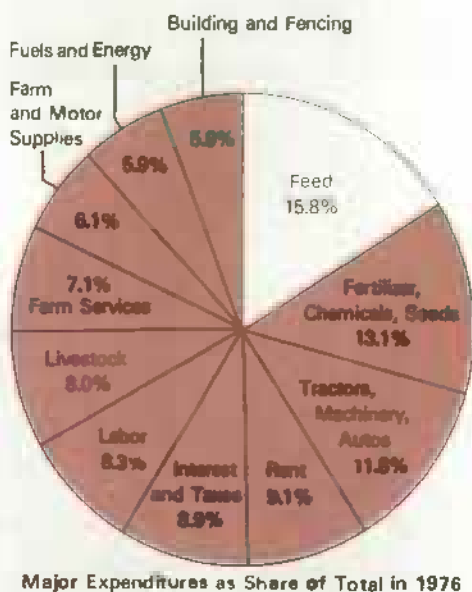
*Includes change in farm inventories.

Net farm income is now higher than in the 1960's and early 1970's, but after shooting up to over \$33 billion, it dropped to around \$20 billion last year. And real net farm income last year, in terms of 1967 dollars, was the lowest since the late 1960's and early 1970's.

REAL NET FARM INCOME DROPS



FEED LARGEST EXPENSE ITEM ON FARMS



Based on USDA survey of farm production expenditures. Expenditures per farm averaged \$32,165 in 1976.

Farmers spent an average of \$32,165 on production items in 1976, based on a USDA survey of production expenditures. Among major items, feed was the largest single expense—accounting for about 16 percent of total costs. Rent expenditures were second—with roughly 9 percent—followed by labor at 8 percent. Expenditures per farm were up around 77 percent since 1971 when a similar survey indicated average outlays of \$18,220.

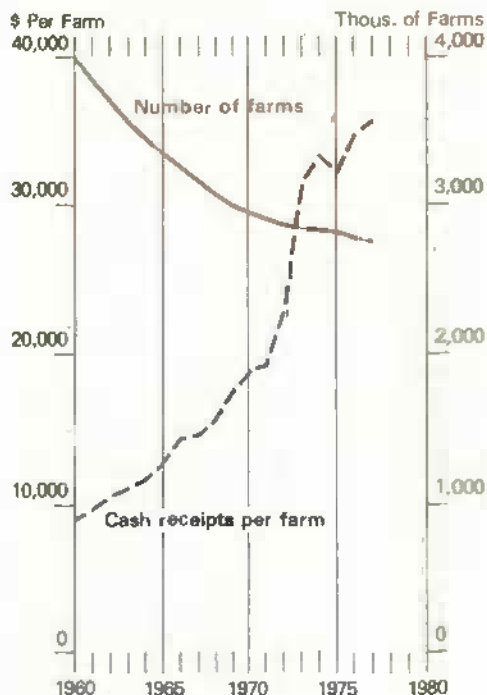
A breakdown of 1976 expenditures by size of farm revealed that large farms were generally spending a larger proportion of outlays on feed, rent, wages, and livestock. On the other hand, smaller farms were spending relatively more for machinery and autos, interest and taxes, farm services, farm and motor supplies, fuels and energy, and building and fencing.

\$

While the number of farms in the United States has been declining steadily over the years, those remaining have become larger and are producing more food, feed, and fiber. This year, the average farm will sell agricultural products worth about \$34,000, up from around \$9,000 in 1960.

Although a large share of the overall growth in receipts per farm during this period came from increasing farm prices, much of the gain occurred in just 2 years—1973 and 1974—when prices jumped over 50 percent. After accounting for price

TREND TO FEWER BUT LARGER FARMS CONTINUES



gains, real growth in receipts per farm has about doubled since 1960.

U.S. farms continue to grow with the average size up about a third from 1960 to around 390 acres this year. Not only have smaller farms been going out of business, but those remaining have increased the size of their operations. Coupled with increased productivity, output per farm has risen substantially over the years.

At the outset of 1977, there were around 2.8 million farms in the United States, down from 4.0 million in 1960 and 3.3 million in the mid-1960's. However, the rate of decline has slowed materially in recent years. During the 1960's, the number of farms dropped about 1 million, or some 3 percent, annually. On the other hand, the rate of decline has averaged about 1 percent a year so far during the 1970's.

\$

Farm people derive income from sources other than just the farming enterprise. These nonfarm sources include wages and salaries from other work, interest, social security, and dividends. Personal income of farm people from all sources takes into account these nonfarm as well as farm earnings.

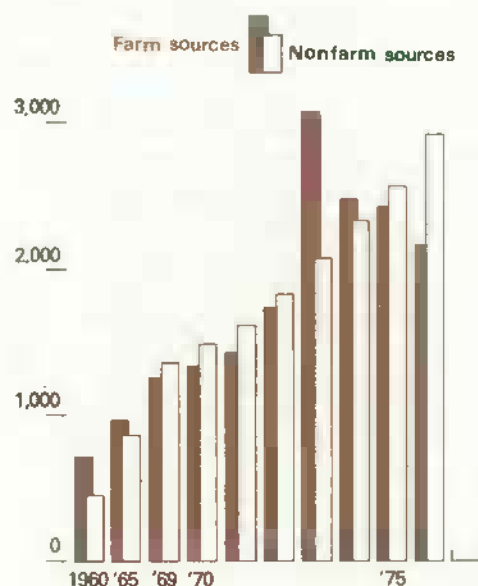
Personal income of farm people last year averaged almost \$5,000 per person, up about 2 percent from 1975. While earnings from farm sources fell in 1976, per capita income from nonfarm sources rose around 14 percent to about 60 percent of total earnings. Farm income per person has declined since its 1973 peak, while earnings from nonfarm sources continue a steady uptrend.

From 1967 to 1972, farmers earned more than half of their income from nonfarm sources. With the sharp improvement in prices for farm products during 1973 and 1974, farmers again obtained more of their income from the farm business, although the amount of nonfarm income continued to expand. However, the situation has reversed in the past 2 years and nonfarm earnings are again providing the larger share of income of farm people.

It now appears that in 1977 farm people will likely continue to earn more from off-farm sources than from farm sources.

NONFARM EARNINGS AGAIN EXCEED FARM SOURCES*

\$ Per Capita
4,000

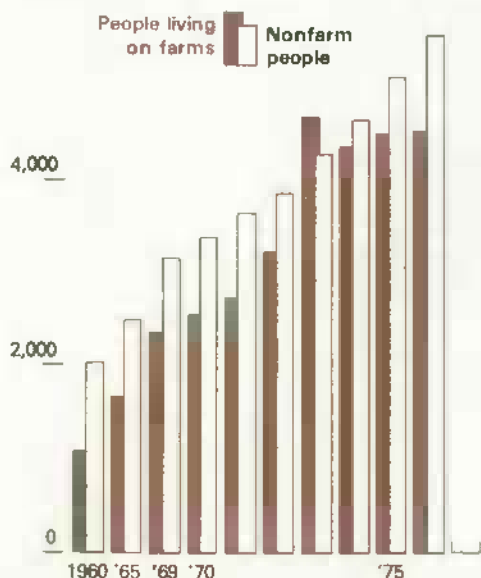


* Personal income of farm population.

The income position of people living on farms relative to their nonfarm counterparts has changed considerably over the years. Farm residents' per capita disposable (after-tax) personal income from all sources, at

FARM PEOPLE'S INCOME STILL LAGS NONFARMERS*

\$ Per Capita
6,000



* Disposable (after-tax) personal income from all sources.

about \$4,500 last year, was around 81 percent of the income available to the average nonfarm person. In 1960, farm people earned only 54 percent as much as those living off farms. In 1973, with the sharp upturn in income from farming, earnings of farm people exceeded nonfarm persons for the only time since data were first reported in 1934.

However, since 1973, income of farm residents has not kept pace with the general advance in overall disposable incomes. Hence, the income ratio of farm to nonfarm people slipped to 92 percent in 1974, 88 percent in 1975, and 81 percent last year. In 1977, per capita incomes of farmers may slip a bit further relative to earnings of nonfarm residents.

\$

Rapid changes are taking place in farming, but total farm income aggregates and averages tend to obscure these changes.

Although declining in number, farms are becoming larger by absorbing land of farms going out of business. As a result, large farms are increasing in number. Problems of these large farms differ from those of smaller farms. Many small farms are part-time operations with much of the family income coming from off-farm employment.

Trends toward fewer farms and the accompanying changes taking place in farm size are emphasized by the distribution of farms and their income characteristics classified according to the value of sales of the unit.

Since last published in the November 1976 *Agricultural Outlook*, the distributions by value of sales class have been revised starting with 1970, to reflect a realignment of farm numbers and their characteristics based on preliminary data from the 1974 Census of Agriculture, the 1975 Farm Production Expenditure Survey, and the 1976 Economic Survey of Agriculture.

Some important results of the revisions include a more rapid growth in farms with sales of \$100,000 or more and a slower decline of farms with sales of less than \$2,500 since 1970 than had been earlier estimated. Also notable is the decline in farms with sales of \$20,000 to \$39,999 and \$2,500 to \$4,999 from the number previously reported.

Changes in prices received by farmers have had an important impact on cash receipts from farm marketings and hence on the distribution of farms and farm income by value of sales classes. Consequently, a farm grossing \$50,000 in 1960 would be equivalent to around \$100,000 in recent years, with about the same volume of marketings. The reason is prices received have about doubled during this period.

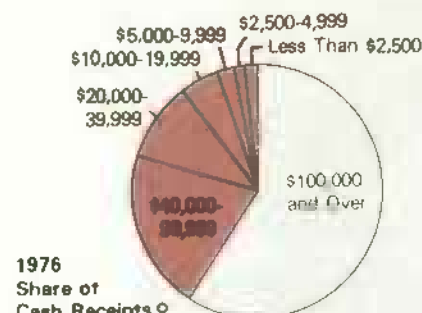
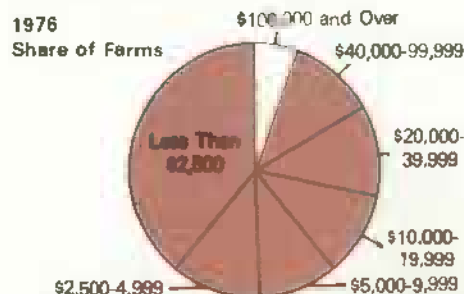
Farms with product sales of \$20,000 and over have been increasing in absolute numbers as well as in proportion to the total farms in this country. These size farms have also been accounting for an increasing share of total cash receipts.

Farms with \$20,000 of more in sales represented 28 percent of all farms in 1976, but they accounted for 90 percent of total cash receipts. Back in 1960, farms of this size were 9 percent of all farms and their sales were about half of total cash receipts.

Those farms with sales in excess of \$100,000 have been the fastest growing in number and importance. They increased nearly sevenfold from 23,000 in 1960 to 155,000 in 1976.

In the early 1960's, farms of this size accounted for less than 1 percent of all farms and about 17 percent of the cash receipts. By 1976 these farms represented nearly 6 percent of all farms but accounted for 60 percent of total sales.

6% OF FARMS ACCOUNT FOR ALMOST 60% OF SALES



Percent of farms and cash receipts by sales classes.

Not only were those \$100,000 farms increasing rapidly in number and relative importance with respect to resources, production, sales and income, they were also growing in size. Cash receipts from farm marketings in this group averaged about \$371,000 per farm in 1976, up 40 percent from 1960. Average production expenses rose 35 percent during this period to \$320,000 in 1976. Realized net income per farm for farms of this size rose from about \$31,000 in 1960 to over \$94,000 in 1973. However, the persistent rise in production expenses had cut net income per farm to around \$56,000 by 1976.

At the other end of the spectrum, farms with sales of less than \$20,000 have been declining rapidly to the point where they now account for only about a tenth of total farm marketings. Nearly 40 percent of the

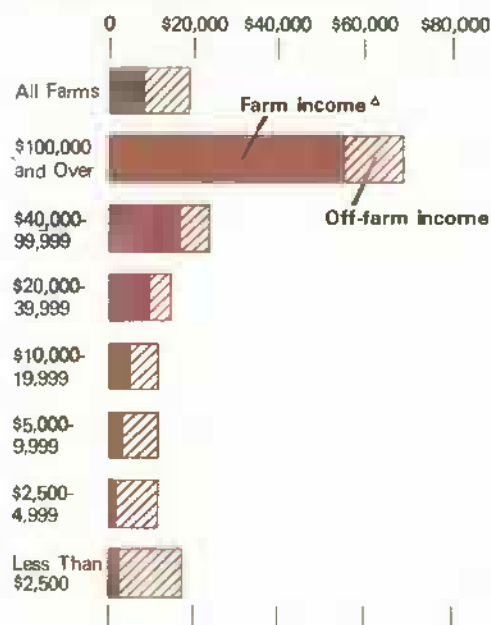
farms in this country sold less than \$2,500 worth of farm products in 1976. However, many of these small farms received most of their income from off-farm sources.

\$

Income from off-farm sources supplements farm earnings on all size farms. In fact, on the smallest size farms, income from farming tends to supplement off-farm income.

In 1976, off-farm income ranged from a low of \$5,762 per farm operator family with farm sales from \$20,000 to \$39,999 to a high of \$15,630 for farms with sales under \$2,500—averaging \$11,174 for all farms. Families operating farms with sales of \$100,000 and over earned \$13,310 in off-farm income in 1976, but that represented only about 19 percent of total income from all sources.

OFF-FARM EARNINGS MOST IMPORTANT ON SMALL FARMS*



* Total income per farm operator family in 1976 by sales classes including nonmoney income from farm food and housing. ▲ Realized net income.

As farming operations decline in size, families depend more heavily on off-farm sources of income. Around 90 percent of total income on farms with sales below \$2,500 came from nonfarm sources.

Although the share of income coming from nonfarm sources for all farms has increased gradually in the last decade to around 59 percent by 1976, off-farm income has been providing a rapidly increasing share on many farms. This has been particularly evident on farms with annual sales of \$2,500 to \$20,000.

Even on farms selling \$40,000 to \$99,999, off-farm income last year provided nearly 30 percent of total income. Only on the largest farms has off-farm income as a portion of total income been fairly steady in recent years, although even on these farms off-farm income has been rising in total dollars.

Aggregates and averages of farm income and production expenses for all farms from the very small to the very large obscure some of the rapid changes occurring in farming today. Estimates of numbers of farms and farm income by value-of-sales classes are an important supplement to data provided by aggregate totals or averages. However, even class averages are sometimes misleading and should be used with caution. Income and expenses on individual farms may be above or below the group average. Also, farms may move up or down into another sales class group from one year to the next.

OFF-FARM INCOME MORE PROMINENT ON MANY FARMS

Farms with annual sales of	Share of total income from off-farm sources			
	1960	1966	1971	1976
	Pct.			
\$100,000 and over	n.a.	14	19	19
\$40,000 - 99,999	n.a.	17	22	29
\$20,000 - 39,999	17	21	28	37
\$10,000 - 19,999	20	31	46	57
\$5,000 - 9,999	33	53	66	75
\$2,500 - 4,999	49	65	81	86
\$2,500 and under	77	85	89	89
All farms	43	50	59	59

n.a. not available.

FARMS WITH OVER \$20,000 SALES INCREASING IN IMPORTANCE

Farms with annual sales of	1960			
	Farms		Cash receipts ¹	
	Number	Share of total	Amount	Share of total
	Thou.	Pct.	\$ Bil.	Pct.
\$100,000 and over	23	0.6	6.1	17.3
\$40,000 to 99,999	90	2.3	5.5	15.5
\$20,000 to 39,999	227	5.7	6.5	18.5
\$10,000 to 19,999	497	12.5	7.4	21.1
\$5,000 to 9,999	660	16.7	5.2	14.7
\$2,500 to 4,999	617	15.6	2.5	7.1
Less than \$2,500	1,849	46.6	2.0	5.8
All farms ²	3,963	100.0	35.2	100.0

Farms with annual sales of	1976			
	Farms		Cash receipts ¹	
	Number	Share of total	Amount	Share of total
	Thou.	Pct.	\$ Bil.	Pct.
\$100,000 and over	155	5.8	57.5	59.6
\$40,000 to 99,999	307	11.0	19.6	20.3
\$20,000 to 39,999	320	11.5	9.7	10.1
\$10,000 to 19,999	302	10.9	4.7	4.9
\$5,000 to 9,999	298	10.7	2.4	2.4
\$2,500 to 4,999	313	11.3	1.2	1.3
Less than \$2,500	1,083	39.0	1.3	1.4
All farms ²	2,778	100.0	96.4	100.0

¹ Includes government payments and other farm income; excludes realized nonmoney income.
² Totals may not add due to rounding.

As mentioned earlier, changes in prices received by farmers have a big influence on cash receipts from farm marketings and hence on the distribution of farms and farm

income by value of sales classes. This has been particularly noticeable since 1972 when farm prices rose sharply, causing large increases in receipts from farm marketing.

INCOME PER FARM OPERATOR FAMILY BY MAJOR SOURCE AND BY VALUE OF SALES CLASSES

Year	Farms with sales							
	\$100,000 and over	\$40,000 to \$99,999	\$20,000 to \$39,999	\$10,000 to \$19,999	\$5,000 to \$9,999	\$2,500 to \$4,999	Less than \$2,500	All farms
	Dollars							
Realized net income ¹								
1960	30,826	13,812	8,080	5,095	3,212	1,931	806	2,806
1961	31,730	14,588	8,431	5,317	3,339	1,997	852	3,038
1962	30,275	14,321	8,268	5,258	3,240	1,918	844	3,099
1963	29,516	14,018	8,045	5,139	3,109	1,816	827	3,119
1964	31,594	12,562	8,435	5,443	3,250	1,886	875	3,272
1965	33,084	15,136	8,578	5,527	3,211	1,830	899	3,533
1966	44,581	18,127	10,134	6,045	3,361	1,895	936	4,312
1967	30,094	15,147	8,823	5,328	3,006	1,678	872	3,695
1968	32,178	15,726	9,353	5,532	3,106	1,695	894	3,972
1969	42,136	17,547	10,561	5,961	3,300	1,722	927	4,733
1970	41,124	17,034	10,305	5,800	3,220	1,692	1,018	4,788
1971	36,158	15,618	9,522	5,345	2,979	1,566	1,059	4,550
1972	55,049	18,966	11,163	6,286	3,509	1,904	1,297	6,204
1973	93,748	23,539	12,972	7,119	3,970	2,178	1,575	10,529
1974	82,413	20,617	11,409	6,170	3,476	1,915	1,644	9,801
1975	55,916	15,633	9,623	5,224	2,987	1,684	1,727	7,410
1976	55,716	16,558	9,622	5,248	3,030	1,725	1,921	7,885
Off-farm income								
1960	NA	NA	1,678	1,258	1,574	1,848	2,732	2,140
1961	NA	NA	1,757	1,414	1,838	2,113	3,039	2,396
1962	NA	NA	1,894	1,604	2,141	2,402	3,377	2,683
1963	NA	NA	2,169	1,870	2,542	2,784	3,845	3,085
1964	NA	NA	2,287	2,058	2,831	3,068	4,180	3,366
1965	7,278	3,680	2,507	2,319	3,232	3,471	4,713	3,792
1966	7,209	3,699	2,694	2,717	3,723	4,079	5,312	4,262
1967	7,140	3,662	2,809	3,044	4,109	4,560	5,661	4,584
1968	7,400	3,799	3,023	3,446	4,592	5,137	6,212	5,036
1969	7,490	3,869	3,215	3,860	5,094	5,752	6,963	5,539
1970	7,596	3,943	3,350	4,165	5,419	6,151	7,391	5,874
1971	8,317	4,348	3,665	4,541	5,892	6,680	8,191	6,456
1972	8,988	4,667	3,944	4,873	6,322	7,167	9,380	7,160
1973	9,406	4,906	4,175	5,205	6,801	7,740	11,824	8,335
1974	10,587	5,520	4,662	5,792	7,574	8,607	13,280	9,330
1975	12,007	6,229	5,199	6,397	8,283	9,400	14,223	10,148
1976	13,310	6,906	5,762	7,060	9,124	10,342	15,630	11,174
Total income including non-money income from farm food and housing ¹								
1960	NA	NA	9,758	6,353	4,786	3,779	3,538	4,946
1961	NA	NA	10,188	6,731	5,177	4,110	3,891	5,434
1962	NA	NA	10,162	6,862	5,381	4,320	4,221	5,782
1963	NA	NA	10,214	7,009	5,651	4,600	4,672	6,204
1964	NA	NA	10,722	7,501	6,081	4,954	5,055	6,638
1965	40,362	18,816	11,085	7,846	6,443	5,301	5,612	7,325
1966	51,790	21,826	12,828	8,762	7,084	5,974	6,248	8,574
1967	37,234	18,809	11,632	8,372	7,115	6,238	6,533	8,279
1968	39,578	19,525	12,376	8,978	7,698	6,832	7,106	9,008
1969	49,626	21,416	13,776	9,821	8,394	7,474	7,890	10,272
1970	48,720	20,977	13,655	9,965	8,639	7,843	8,409	10,662
1971	44,475	19,966	13,187	9,886	8,871	8,246	9,250	11,006
1972	64,037	23,633	15,107	11,159	9,831	9,071	10,677	13,364
1973	103,154	28,445	17,147	12,324	10,771	9,918	13,399	18,864
1974	93,000	26,137	16,071	11,962	11,050	10,522	14,924	19,131
1975	67,923	22,862	14,822	11,621	11,270	11,084	15,950	17,558
1976	69,026	23,464	15,384	12,308	12,154	12,067	17,551	19,059

¹ Includes Government payments. NA = Not available.

Recent Publications

In response to reader requests for more information about available USDA publications, listed by subject area, we are expanding our monthly coverage of newly released reports to include those of several additional USDA agencies. To order reports you will need to write directly to the issuing agency (indicated in parentheses after each report citation). Be sure when ordering to list the publication number and provide your zip code.

To order ERS reports you may use the order form provided on the inside back cover of this issue. Addresses for the other issuing agencies are:

FAS Reports:

Foreign Agricultural Service
Information Divisions
Information Services Staff, Room 5918
South
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

COMM Reports:

Office of Communications
Publications
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

NTIS Reports:

NTIS
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, Virginia 22161

New report listings, by subject matter:

Beef:

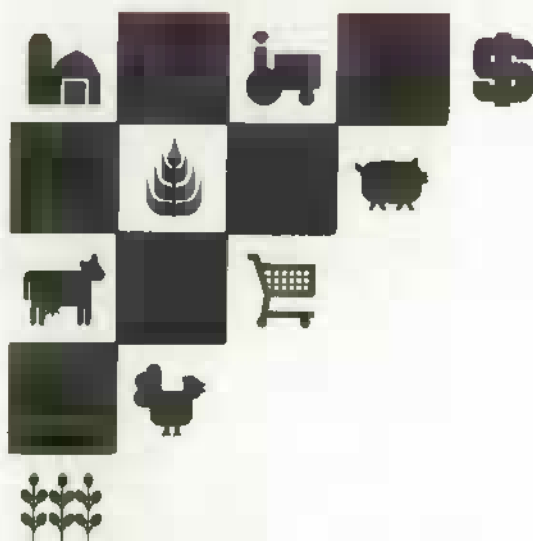
Alternative Retail Beef-Handling Systems. ERS-661 (ERS)
Optimizing Marketing dates for Steers by Accounting for Individual Differences. AER-372 (COMM)

Cotton:

Charges for Ginning Cotton and Selected Services, 1971/72-1975/76 Seasons. SB-577 (ERS)
U.S. Team Reports on Soviet Cotton Production and Trade, FAS-M-277 (FAS)
Peru's Cotton Quality High, but Production Down. FC-13-77 (FAS)

Continued on page 48 . . .

OUTLOOK '78



NATIONAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

November 14-17, 1977
General and Commodity Sessions

Monday, November 14
Thomas Jefferson Auditorium
USDA South Building

- 8:30 AM Sign In and Registration, Exhibits, and Visitor Assistance (Patio, Agricultural Administration Building)
- 1:00 PM Opening of Conference
- 1:15 PM U.S. Farm and Food Policy in the World of the Seventies
- 1:45 PM U.S. Food Policy and the Consumer
- 3:15 PM Sugar and Sweetener Outlook
- 3:15 PM From Forecasting to Outlook (Room 2096, USDA South Building)
- 3:15 PM Resources and the Environment (Room 3840, USDA South Building)
- 6:45 PM U.S. Agriculture in World Perspective

Tuesday, November 15
Thomas Jefferson Auditorium
USDA South Building

- 9:00 AM The U.S. Economic Outlook in World Perspective
- 9:20 AM U.S. Agricultural Trade Outlook
- 9:40 AM U.S. Agricultural Outlook
- 10:45 AM Outlook for Farm Inputs and Factors Affecting Production
- 11:05 AM The Weather—Outlook and Implications for Agriculture
- 1:00 PM U.S. and World Cotton Outlook
- 1:30 PM Capital and Credit Outlook (Cafeteria, USDA South Building)
- 2:45 PM Tobacco Outlook (Room 1339, USDA South Building)
- 3:00 PM U.S. and World Fats and Oils Outlook

Wednesday, November 16
Thomas Jefferson Auditorium
USDA South Building

- 8:30 AM U.S. and World Grain Outlook
- 12:45 PM Meat Animal Outlook
- 1:30 PM Fruits and Vegetables Outlook (Cafeteria, USDA South Building)
- 2:00 PM Forest Products Outlook (Room 3840, USDA South Building)
- 2:15 PM Dairy Outlook
- 3:45 PM Poultry Outlook

Thursday, November 17
Thomas Jefferson Auditorium
USDA South Building

- 8:45 AM Outlook for Food and Diets
- 9:30 AM U.S. Dietary Goals and Implications
- 10:30 AM Establishing and Implementing National Dietary Goals
- 11:15 AM Consumer Diets: How Do National Goals Affect Them?

Family Living Sessions

Tuesday, November 15
Auditorium, Freer Gallery

- 1:30 PM Food - Consumer Concerns and Behavior

Wednesday, November 16
Auditorium, Freer Gallery

- 8:45 AM Outlook for Population, Housing, Clothing
- 1:30 PM Energy Saving Technologies—New Developments

Statistical Indicators

Editor's Note: Beginning with the August issue (AO-24), the January-June 1975, 1976, and 1977 totals or averages will be shown in the following statistical tables rather than Annual 1974, 1975, and 1976 data. Refer to the July issue (AO-23) for annual data. Also, the January-June data for commodities and farm income are now being shown in this issue.

Farm Income

Gross and net farm income¹

Items	First Half			1974	1975				1976				1977	
	1975	1976	1977	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
	\$ Bil.													
Cash receipts from farm marketings .	84.6	96.7	97.4	90.7	79.7	89.5	94.1	89.0	93.0	100.4	91.5	92.4	95.9	99.0
Livestock and products	40.0	47.3	46.6	38.7	37.0	43.1	45.3	46.7	46.3	48.3	45.5	45.4	45.3	48.0
Crops	44.6	49.4	50.8	52.0	42.7	46.4	48.8	42.3	46.7	52.1	46.0	47.0	50.6	51.0
Nonmoney and other farm income ^a .	8.0	9.2	9.8	7.8	7.7	8.4	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.5	9.7	9.8
Realized gross farm income	92.6	105.9	107.2	98.5	87.4	97.9	103.4	98.1	102.1	109.6	100.9	101.9	105.6	108.8
Farm production expenses	74.0	81.6	85.1	72.4	72.4	75.7	78.8	76.7	79.1	84.2	82.3	81.2	83.1	87.1
Farmers' realized net income	18.6	24.3	22.1	26.1	15.0	22.2	24.6	21.4	23.0	25.4	18.6	20.7	22.5	21.7
Net change in farm inventories	2.8	-1.8	-.6	-3.5	4.0	1.5	2.9	5.5	-1.5	-2.2	-1.0	-2.7	-.5	-.7
Farmers' total net income														
Current prices	21.4	22.5	21.5	22.6	19.0	23.7	27.5	26.9	21.5	23.2	17.6	18.0	22.0	21.0
1967 Prices ^b	13.1	13.0	11.6	14.3	11.7	14.5	16.3	15.7	12.5	13.3	9.9	10.0	12.0	11.2

¹ Quarterly data are seasonally adjusted at annual rates. All data revised July 1977. ² Includes government payments to farmers, value of farm products consumed in farm households, rental value of farm dwellings, and income from recreation, machine hire, and custom work. ³ Deflated by the index of prices paid by farmers for family living items on a 1967 base. In 1977 movement is based on the overall change in the consumer price index.

Cash receipts from farming

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	June	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	June
					\$ Mil.					
Farm marketings and CCC loans ¹	36,199	41,672	42,074	7,294	8,078	6,733	6,902	6,566	6,696	7,099
Livestock and products	19,636	23,226	23,017	3,938	3,615	3,680	3,951	3,842	3,946	3,983
Meat animals	11,574	13,717	13,353	2,296	2,064	2,181	2,309	2,211	2,268	2,320
Dairy products	4,791	5,782	5,848	968	943	879	982	996	1,042	1,006
Poultry and eggs	3,014	3,412	3,536	623	565	579	620	583	582	607
Other	257	315	280	51	43	41	40	52	54	50
Crops	16,563	18,446	19,057	3,356	4,463	3,053	2,951	2,724	2,750	3,115
Food grains	2,756	2,923	2,636	795	598	394	345	310	368	621
Feed crops	4,888	5,749	5,496	1,049	1,442	954	831	657	720	892
Cotton (lint and seed)	961	908	912	31	416	220	127	140	2	7
Tobacco	289	341	410	—	205	62	92	32	14	5
Oil-bearing crops	2,465	3,192	4,307	566	1,021	663	651	625	703	644
Vegetables and melons	1,998	2,209	2,266	450	322	312	356	413	424	439
Fruits and tree nuts	1,381	1,396	1,310	263	180	194	229	180	226	301
Other	1,825	1,728	1,720	202	278	255	320	366	294	207
Government Payments	490	255	399	19	97	100	105	48	25	24
Total cash receipts ²	35,689	41,927	42,473	7,313	8,175	6,833	7,007	6,614	6,721	7,123

¹ Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. ² Details may not add because of rounding.

Farm marketing indexes (physical volume)

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977 ¹	June	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
	1967=100									
All commodities	95	105	107	108	127	104	104	99	99	113
Livestock and Products	102	107	111	108	107	106	115	110	111	115
Crops	85	102	103	107	153	102	90	81	81	110

Cash receipts¹ from farm marketings, by States, January-June

State	Livestock and Products		Crops ²		Total ³	
	1976	1977	1976	1977	1976	1977
	\$ Mil. ³					
NORTH ATLANTIC						
Maine	129.0	135.7	121.7	102.2	250.7	237.8
New Hampshire	28.9	29.1	9.6	10.1	38.6	39.2
Vermont	121.7	117.2	9.6	10.2	131.3	127.4
Massachusetts	55.6	56.4	43.3	43.7	98.9	100.1
Rhode Island	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.4	12.9	13.0
Connecticut	66.6	65.4	59.3	62.3	125.8	127.7
New York	624.7	599.8	187.2	199.0	812.0	798.8
New Jersey	55.7	55.2	64.2	68.2	119.9	123.4
Pennsylvania	644.8	659.1	206.2	240.8	851.1	899.9
NORTH CENTRAL						
Ohio	581.7	570.2	593.5	754.6	1,175.2	1,324.7
Indiana	679.6	660.9	670.9	804.7	1,350.5	1,465.6
Illinois	961.1	928.8	2,066.9	2,252.7	3,028.0	3,181.5
Michigan	411.1	405.6	380.9	337.5	792.0	743.1
Wisconsin	1,271.3	1,297.5	210.7	193.4	1,482.0	1,490.9
Minnesota	1,117.1	1,097.1	717.5	732.5	1,834.6	1,829.6
Iowa	2,015.2	1,943.4	1,291.4	1,585.2	3,306.5	3,528.6
Missouri	783.1	757.6	393.3	435.6	1,176.4	1,193.2
North Dakota	230.7	229.0	513.9	463.0	744.6	692.1
South Dakota	729.2	718.6	185.5	111.7	914.7	830.2
Nebraska	1,088.3	1,077.7	802.5	717.5	1,890.8	1,795.2
Kansas	1,048.2	984.7	713.3	713.6	1,761.5	1,698.4
SOUTHERN						
Delaware	89.7	90.2	22.7	26.4	112.5	116.6
Maryland	213.1	216.2	71.8	95.8	285.0	312.1
Virginia	260.5	305.6	97.5	97.6	358.0	403.2
West Virginia	45.4	46.2	12.0	14.4	57.4	60.6
North Carolina	536.0	549.9	205.0	236.7	741.0	786.6
South Carolina	141.2	138.6	141.6	156.2	282.7	294.7
Georgia	595.9	607.1	256.5	247.9	852.4	855.1
Florida	349.4	363.6	1,293.9	1,266.9	1,643.3	1,630.7
Kentucky	355.7	356.5	311.9	428.0	667.6	784.5
Tennessee	344.7	349.0	152.9	181.6	497.6	530.8
Alabama	519.5	518.1	175.4	190.0	694.9	708.1
Mississippi	332.8	341.7	300.2	276.6	632.9	618.3
Arkansas	519.2	539.6	429.9	409.9	949.1	949.5
Louisiana	205.7	209.2	237.3	213.1	443.0	422.4
Oklahoma	620.4	619.1	268.6	280.2	888.9	899.3
Texas	1,642.9	1,611.6	1,004.3	1,016.4	2,647.2	2,628.0
WESTERN						
Montana	134.6	132.4	243.4	234.9	378.0	367.3
Idaho	220.4	213.9	328.4	262.1	548.8	478.1
Wyoming	99.3	93.3	21.8	21.3	121.0	114.7
Colorado	697.3	688.0	189.2	179.0	886.5	867.0
New Mexico	201.9	196.4	65.2	64.1	267.1	260.6
Arizona	297.7	299.2	315.5	367.4	613.2	666.6
Utah	122.6	115.0	36.7	34.7	159.3	149.7
Nevada	44.1	43.3	18.7	23.3	62.9	66.6
Washington	264.7	258.5	467.5	412.8	732.2	871.4
Oregon	169.4	165.5	231.1	215.0	400.5	380.6
California	1,518.3	1,519.2	2,169.2	2,129.2	3,687.5	3,648.4
Alaska	2.1	2.1	1.0	1.0	3.1	3.2
Hawaii	31.6	32.3	129.3	129.3	160.8	161.6
UNITED STATES						
Grand Total	23,225.9	23,017.2	18,446.3	19,056.9	41,672.2	42,074.1

¹ Estimated as of the first of current month. ² Sales of farm products include receipts from loans reported minus value of redemptions during the period. ³ Rounded data may not add.

Supply and Utilization: Crops and Livestock

Supply-utilization indexes of farm commodities¹

Year	Supply			Utilization						
	Production	Imports ²	Stocks ³	Total use	Domestic use				Total domestic use	Exports and shipments ⁴
					Food		Non-food			
					Civilian	Military	Seed and feed	Other		
1967=100 All commodities indexes ⁵										
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
1968	101.2	111.1	101.6	102.0	102.5	97.9	—	101.0	102.2	100.5
1969	101.3	100.7	103.7	101.4	104.4	83.5	—	96.5	103.1	90.6
1970	99.5	102.7	105.1	103.9	105.9	70.3	—	90.0	103.4	107.5
1971	107.6	106.2	99.2	105.9	108.3	62.5	—	90.5	105.4	109.2
1972	106.3	114.9	103.7	108.9	109.9	49.9	—	86.0	106.0	127.2
1973	109.0	113.3	102.3	112.5	106.9	39.0	—	89.0	103.5	168.6
1974	107.0	102.6	98.6	111.1	109.3	34.7	—	81.6	104.7	151.4
1975	117.6	108.4	92.0	111.7	109.9	40.4	—	78.3	104.9	154.8
1976	120.3	115.4	102.6	117.6	114.6	35.8	—	86.3	109.8	166.0
1977	122.2	113.8	108.4	117.7	114.9	33.2	—	85.7	109.9	166.3
Livestock commodities										
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1968	100.6	114.2	123.9	102.4	102.2	99.8	97.4	110.0	102.3	106.6
1969	100.9	109.5	110.5	102.5	103.1	85.3	100.4	100.3	102.5	103.9
1970	103.5	113.1	95.7	104.5	105.9	71.7	97.2	89.5	104.4	108.5
1971	106.0	102.3	102.4	106.8	108.7	61.2	97.0	75.5	106.3	128.0
1972	105.6	113.1	99.1	107.1	109.3	49.4	101.0	73.6	106.6	126.8
1973	100.5	115.8	87.9	101.8	104.6	36.7	98.0	63.0	101.5	112.0
1974	105.6	92.9	94.8	105.6	109.0	32.7	96.5	58.8	105.4	112.2
1975	103.7	91.0	102.4	104.6	107.6	38.0	94.5	62.7	104.3	117.8
1976	110.8	105.1	81.7	111.0	113.7	32.7	105.7	68.5	110.2	143.4
1977	111.1	106.2	96.0	111.2	113.8	29.5	107.1	69.4	110.3	146.5
Crop commodities										
1967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1968	102.8	110.1	100.8	102.2	103.2	90.8	103.8	99.1	102.8	99.8
1969	104.4	98.1	103.5	102.8	107.3	76.3	108.2	95.7	105.8	89.2
1970	100.5	99.6	105.4	105.9	105.8	64.9	111.1	90.1	105.5	107.4
1971	111.3	107.5	99.1	107.8	107.5	67.2	114.0	93.7	108.0	107.1
1972	112.8	115.3	103.8	114.6	111.3	51.9	120.9	88.6	111.7	127.2
1973	119.8	112.6	102.8	122.8	112.2	47.3	117.0	94.6	111.2	174.8
1974	109.9	105.6	98.7	115.6	110.0	42.0	111.2	86.5	106.6	155.8
1975	122.4	113.6	91.6	112.9	114.9	49.6	98.9	81.8	102.6	159.0
1976	122.6	118.4	103.3	118.5	116.9	47.3	105.2	90.1	107.4	168.5
1977	127.5	116.1	108.9	120.8	117.3	47.3	110.8	89.2	109.9	168.5
Percentage of annual utilization All commodities ⁵										
1967	89.9	11.0	-.9	100.0	74.6	1.7	—	10.0	86.3	13.7
1968	89.2	12.0	-1.2	100.0	75.0	1.6	—	9.9	86.5	13.5
1969	89.8	10.9	-.7	100.0	76.8	1.4	—	9.5	87.7	12.3
1970	86.0	10.9	3.1	100.0	76.1	1.1	—	8.6	85.8	14.2
1971	91.3	11.0	-2.3	100.0	78.3	1.0	—	8.5	85.8	14.2
1972	87.7	11.6	.7	100.0	75.3	.8	—	7.9	84.0	16.0
1973	87.1	11.1	1.8	100.0	70.9	.6	—	7.9	79.4	20.6
1974	86.6	10.1	3.3	100.0	73.5	.5	—	7.3	81.3	18.7
1975	94.5	10.7	-5.2	100.0	73.4	.6	—	7.0	81.0	19.0
1976	91.9	10.8	-2.7	100.0	72.8	.5	—	7.3	80.6	19.4
1977	93.3	10.6	-3.9	100.0	72.9	.5	—	7.2	80.6	19.4
Livestock commodities										
1967	96.3	4.5	-.8	100.0	90.0	2.3	2.3	3.0	97.6	2.4
1968	94.6	5.0	.4	100.0	89.8	2.2	2.2	3.3	97.5	2.5
1969	94.7	4.8	.5	100.0	90.5	1.9	2.2	3.0	97.8	2.4
1970	95.4	4.8	-.2	100.0	91.2	1.6	2.1	2.6	97.4	2.5
1971	95.6	4.3	.1	100.0	91.5	1.3	2.1	2.2	97.1	2.9
1972	95.0	4.7	.3	100.0	91.9	1.1	2.1	2.1	97.2	2.8
1973	95.1	5.1	-.2	100.0	92.6	.8	2.1	1.9	97.4	2.6
1974	96.3	3.9	-.2	100.0	93.0	.7	2.1	1.7	97.5	2.4
1975	95.5	3.9	.6	100.0	92.6	.8	2.1	1.8	97.3	2.7
1976	96.2	4.2	-.4	100.0	92.1	.7	2.2	1.9	96.9	3.1
1977	96.3	4.2	-.5	100.0	92.2	.6	2.2	1.9	96.9	3.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Supply-utilization indexes of farm commodities¹

Year	Supply			Utilization						
	Production	Imports ²	Stocks ³	Total use	Domestic use				Exports and shipments ⁴	
					Food		Non-food			Total domestic use
					Civilian	Military	Seed and feed	Other		
1967=100 Crop commodities										
1967	88.1	12.5	-0.6	100.0	33.7	0.5	35.5	12.1	81.8	18.2
1968	88.6	13.5	-2.1	100.0	34.1	.5	35.9	11.7	82.2	17.8
1969	89.4	12.0	-1.4	100.0	35.2	.4	37.3	11.3	84.2	15.8
1970	83.6	11.8	4.6	100.0	33.7	.3	37.2	10.3	81.5	18.5
1971	90.9	12.5	-3.4	100.0	33.6	.3	37.5	10.5	81.9	18.1
1972	86.7	12.6	.7	100.0	32.8	.2	37.4	9.4	79.8	20.2
1973	85.9	11.5	2.6	100.0	30.9	.2	33.7	9.3	74.1	25.9
1974	83.8	11.4	4.8	100.0	32.2	.2	34.1	9.0	76.5	24.5
1975	95.5	12.6	-8.1	100.0	34.5	.2	31.0	8.7	74.4	25.8
1976	91.1	12.5	-3.6	100.0	33.2	.2	31.6	9.2	74.1	25.9
1977	93.2	12.1	-5.3	100.0	32.8	.2	32.6	9.0	74.6	26.4

¹Quantities weighted by constant farm prices. Domestic use allocated on basis of value of processed products. ²Includes shipments from U.S. Territories. ³Farm (other than live animals), commercial, and Government program holdings. January 1 indexes (1967=100) derived by applying annual changes to January 1961 level. Percentage of utilization represents stock changes. Negatives indicate stock increases; positives signify withdrawals. ⁴Includes shipments to U.S. Territories. ⁵Seed and feed omitted from total commodities to avoid double counting of use through livestock.

Supply-utilization farm equivalent aggregates¹

Year	Supply			Utilization						
	Production	Imports	Stock changes ²	Total use	Domestic use				Exports and shipments	
					Food		Non-food			
					Civilian	Military	Seed and feed	Other		
\$ Mil.										
All commodities										
1967	33,914	4,150	.326	37,739	28,166	629	—	3,760	32,555	5,184
1968	34,335	4,810	-451	38,494	28,870	616	—	3,798	33,284	5,210
1969	34,344	4,181	-274	38,251	29,399	526	—	3,829	33,563	4,698
1970	33,749	4,263	1,211	39,223	29,822	442	—	3,385	33,649	5,574
1971	36,480	4,409	-924	39,965	30,511	393	—	3,402	34,306	5,659
1972	36,060	4,767	278	41,105	30,963	314	—	3,234	34,511	6,594
1973	36,963	4,704	772	42,439	30,108	245	—	3,348	33,701	8,738
1974	38,304	4,256	1,375	41,935	30,799	218	—	3,068	34,085	7,850
1975	39,876	4,497	-2,204	42,169	30,943	254	—	2,945	34,142	8,027
1976	40,765	4,789	-1,207	44,368	32,291	225	—	3,245	35,761	8,607
1977	41,430	4,721	-1,738	44,413	32,360	209	—	3,221	36,790	8,623
Livestock commodities										
1967	20,885	966	-166	21,685	19,517	498	492	660	21,167	518
1968	21,003	1,103	93	22,199	19,945	497	479	726	21,647	552
1969	21,076	1,058	103	22,237	20,118	425	494	662	21,699	538
1970	21,613	1,093	-47	22,659	20,671	357	478	591	22,097	562
1971	22,143	988	23	23,154	21,211	306	477	498	22,491	663
1972	22,048	1,093	78	23,219	21,333	246	497	486	22,562	657
1973	20,997	1,119	-48	22,068	20,407	183	482	416	21,488	680
1974	22,045	897	-53	22,889	21,282	163	475	388	22,308	581
1975	21,662	879	144	22,685	21,007	189	465	414	22,075	610
1976	23,144	1,015	-99	24,060	22,182	163	520	452	23,317	743
1977	23,202	1,026	-120	24,108	22,215	147	527	458	23,347	761
Crop commodities										
1967	22,577	3,212	-159	25,630	8,649	131	9,084	3,100	20,964	4,666
1968	23,212	3,536	-544	26,204	8,925	119	9,430	3,072	21,546	4,658
1969	23,562	3,152	-377	26,337	9,281	100	9,829	2,967	22,177	4,160
1970	22,681	3,199	1,258	27,138	9,151	85	10,096	2,794	22,126	6,012
1971	25,136	3,452	-947	27,641	9,300	88	10,353	2,904	22,645	4,996
1972	26,457	3,705	200	29,362	9,630	68	10,979	2,748	23,425	5,937
1973	27,041	3,616	820	31,477	9,701	52	10,624	2,932	23,319	8,158
1974	24,807	3,391	1,428	29,626	9,617	56	10,105	2,680	22,357	7,269
1975	27,631	3,648	-2,348	28,931	9,936	66	8,982	2,531	21,514	7,417
1976	27,687	3,804	-1,108	30,383	10,109	62	9,555	2,793	22,519	7,864
1977	28,791	3,729	-1,618	30,902	10,145	52	10,068	2,766	23,040	7,862

¹Quantities weighed by 1957-59 farm prices. ²Negatives indicated stock increases, positives signify withdrawals.

Farm Production¹

Items	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977 ²
	1967=100							
Farm output	101	111	110	112 ³	108	114	117	118
All livestock products ³ ..	105	108	108	105	106	101	106	108
Meat animals	108	112	110	108	110	102	106	108
Dairy products	100	101	102	98	98	98	103	105
Poultry and eggs	106	107	109	106	106	103	113	111
All crops ⁴	101	112	113	120	109	121	122	124
Feed grains	89	116	112	115	93	114	119	119
Hay and forage	99	105	104	109	104	108	102	104
Food grains	91	107	102	113	122	142	140	132
Sugar crops	114	116	127	112	104	131	131	115
Cotton	139	145	187	175	158	112	142	182
Tobacco	97	86	88	88	101	110	108	91
Oil crops	117	121	131	155	127	153	130	159
Cropland used for crops	98	100	98	104	106	108	109	110
Crop production per acre	104	112	115	115	103	112	112	113

¹ Prepared jointly by Economic Research Service and Statistical Reporting Service. For historical data and explanation of indexes, see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency," Statistical Bulletin 561. ² Preliminary indexes for 1977 based on August 1977 "Crop Production" and other releases of the Crop Reporting Board, SRS. ³ Gross livestock production includes minor livestock products not included in the separate groups shown. It cannot be added to gross livestock production to compute farm output.

Farm Prices: Received and Paid

Indexes of prices received and paid by farmers, U.S. average*

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
	1967=100									
Prices Received										
All farm products	180	189	188	194	187	190	191	194	184	180
All crops	202	196	206	214	203	211	214	214	198	181
Food grains	242	223	154	214	163	160	157	148	139	136
Feed grains and hay	235	221	204	242	208	210	206	202	189	172
Feed grains	237	219	196	242	201	202	199	192	180	164
Cotton	158	246	290	306	284	310	301	298	272	268
Tobacco	166	158	173	153	172	172	174	174	174	152
Oil-bearing crops	205	180	282	240	252	276	314	319	287	228
Fruit	140	132	139	118	122	131	141	165	156	149
Fresh market ¹	138	131	134	114	113	124	136	164	156	146
Commercial vegetables	163	159	195	158	225	227	191	170	154	160
Fresh market	176	171	219	169	267	270	199	185	159	169
Potatoes ²	192	232	202	207	179	182	203	244	235	241
Livestock and Products	160	183	173	179	174	171	172	176	173	179
Meat animals	157	181	166	176	163	162	165	175	170	176
Dairy products	163	190	188	187	190	187	187	185	186	189
Poultry and eggs	170	177	178	178	192	183	177	168	166	176
Prices Paid										
Commodities and services,										
interest, taxes, and wage rates	178	191	202	194	200	201	204	204	204	203
Production items	179	193	201	196	199	201	204	205	203	201
Feed	189	186	201	206	200	202	204	205	198	184
Feeder livestock	124	162	156	154	153	158	166	166	154	160
Interest payable per acre on farm real estate debt	271	303	328	303	328	328	328	328	328	328
Taxes on farm real estate	166	176	186	176	186	186	186	186	186	186
Wage rates (seasonally adjusted)	190	211	226	213	229	229	224	224	224	224
Production items, interest, taxes, and wage rates	184	199	209	202	207	209	211	212	210	208
Prices received (1910-14=100)	449	472	470	486	468	474	477	484	461	450
Prices paid, etc. (Parity index) (1910-14=100)	603	650	686	660	679	685	692	695	692	689
Parity ratio	74	72	69	74	69	69	69	70	67	65

¹ Fresh market for noncitrus and fresh market and processing for citrus. ² Includes sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans. *Historical data in SRS report *Agricultural Prices, Annual Summary 1976*.

Prices received by farmers, U.S. average*

Commodities	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Crops										
All wheat (\$/bu.)	3.63	3.52	2.32	3.33	2.47	2.43	2.37	2.19	2.03	2.00p
Rice, rough (\$/cwt.)	11.08	7.12	6.99	7.45	6.87	6.81	6.95	7.30	7.24	6.81p
Corn (\$/bu.)	2.77	2.54	2.28	2.82	2.34	2.35	2.31	2.25	2.12	1.93p
Sorghum (\$/cwt.)	4.28	4.14	3.39	4.53	3.51	3.55	3.44	3.18	3.08	2.98p
All hay, baled (\$/ton)	51.90	56.50	63.40	59.00	62.70	63.90	63.20	68.10	61.30	56.80
Soybeans (\$/bu.)	5.47	4.83	8.03	6.73	7.06	7.83	9.05	9.21	8.21	6.30p
Cotton, Upland (cts./lb.)	35.6	5.55	65.4	68.8	63.9	69.8	67.8	67.2	61.1	60.4p
Potatoes (\$/cwt.)	3.57	4.83	4.12	4.30	3.56	3.71	4.10	5.20	4.77	5.14
Dry edible beans (\$/cwt.)	18.40	17.60	15.90	16.30	16.00	14.50	16.60	16.90	17.10	16.50
Apples for fresh use (cts./lb.)	12.6	8.5	11.7	9.5	11.1	12.0	12.1	12.0	12.1	13.4
Pears for fresh use (\$/ton)	178	209	134	140	145	123	114	113	150	140
Oranges, all uses (\$/box) ¹	1.71	2.09	1.76	1.53	.86	1.46	2.09	2.45	2.86	2.00
Grapefruit, all uses (\$/box) ¹	1.82	1.36	1.23	1.10	1.85	1.10	1.10	1.23	.95	1.83
Livestock										
Beef cattle (\$/cwt.)	31.00	35.30	34.00	33.60	33.10	33.80	34.90	36.10	34.10	34.90
Calves (\$/cwt.)	26.40	35.70	36.40	34.90	35.60	36.60	38.10	38.50	36.00	36.60
Hogs (\$/cwt.)	41.20	47.50	38.80	47.60	39.30	37.10	36.00	40.70	41.90	44.90
Lambs (\$/cwt.)	41.30	51.90	50.80	46.80	49.50	49.20	51.00	55.50	51.20	50.70
All milk, sold to plants (\$/cwt.)	8.21	9.57	9.46	9.43	9.54	9.43	9.43	9.34	9.38	9.52p
Milk, manuf. grade (\$/cwt.)	7.04	8.51	8.53	8.62	8.41	8.46	8.66	8.60	8.55	8.58p
Broilers (cts./lb.)	24.5	24.4	23.8	25.4	24.0	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.7	26.2
Eggs (cts./doz.) ²	50.9	55.6	56.9	55.1	66.2	58.8	55.3	49.1	46.8	50.7
Turkeys (cts./lb.)	31.2	32.2	33.3	31.1	32.5	34.2	33.6	33.2	33.9	33.7
Wool (cts./lb.) ³	41.6	61.0	74.2	68.3	73.0	75.6	72.9	75.1	73.7	73.3

¹ Equivalent on-tree returns. ² Average of all eggs sold by farmers, including hatching eggs and eggs sold at retail. ³ Average local market price, excluding incentive payments. p Preliminary. *Historical data in SRS report *Agricultural Prices, Annual Summary 1976*.



Monthly Labor Review...

... the oldest and most authoritative Government research journal in economics and the social sciences. Regularly features articles by Government experts and noted scholars outside of Government, a review of developments in industrial relations, significant court decisions in labor cases, book reviews, and 40 pages of current statistics on employment, earnings, prices, productivity, strikes, and related topics. Published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

One-year subscription in the United States and Canada, \$16. Foreign subscriptions \$20. Make checks payable to Superintendent of Documents. Mail to *Monthly Labor Review*, Box 353, La Plata, Md. 20646.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

Wholesale Price Index, U.S. average (not seasonally adjusted)

Commodity group	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
	1967=100									
All commodities	172.1	180.8	192.3	184.4	190.0	191.9	194.3	195.2	194.4	194.8
Industrial commodities	169.2	179.4	192.0	182.7	189.9	191.6	193.2	194.2	194.6	195.8
All foods ¹	183.8	180.8	185.4	180.9	183.0	184.8	187.0	190.5	188.0	189.1
Farm products and processed foods and feeds	180.1	183.7	191.4	188.1	188.4	190.9	195.9	196.8	191.5	189.3
Farm products	179.0	192.0	200.0	196.9	199.0	202.4	208.1	204.3	192.7	190.5
Fruits and vegetables ²	180.2	183.9	202.3	184.6	212.6	219.1	205.6	201.8	176.2	182.0
Grains	226.1	215.0	177.9	224.3	185.8	183.4	184.4	171.2	157.7	153.3
Livestock	172.9	183.2	169.4	175.9	166.2	163.5	167.9	180.2	172.3	180.5
Poultry, live	176.2	173.2	177.1	184.0	183.7	177.2	182.3	183.1	182.7	193.7
Fibers, plant and animal	141.4	198.8	232.4	269.0	240.1	252.4	249.5	238.6	197.5	195.3
Milk	168.9	200.5	198.2	193.1	198.4	195.2	197.7	198.3	199.3	202.7
Eggs	153.5	169.7	168.1	167.7	194.8	173.5	165.2	144.4	141.4	156.6
Oilseeds	207.6	181.5	278.4	239.3	244.1	272.5	330.8	300.5	281.1	205.4
Processed foods and feeds	180.7	178.6	186.0	182.6	181.9	183.9	188.5	192.0	190.1	187.8
Meats	173.4	181.8	163.4	175.4	163.4	160.5	159.6	172.1	171.7	177.6
Beef and veal	165.7	162.8	151.9	147.3	149.1	147.1	151.7	162.5	154.8	160.6
Pork	189.3	212.9	183.0	218.0	183.6	178.7	167.7	184.6	197.3	206.2
Poultry	172.0	170.2	174.2	181.2	179.2	174.7	179.9	178.5	178.1	188.0
Fish	207.6	267.6	299.8	278.7	300.2	296.8	306.0	294.9	295.3	297.0
Dairy	149.1	167.1	170.6	170.2	166.9	168.1	173.6	174.2	174.3	175.1
Processed fruits and vegetables	170.7	167.3	183.6	169.7	182.9	184.2	185.6	185.8	187.8	188.5
Cereal and bakery products	179.6	174.1	170.8	173.6	169.9	171.5	171.6	172.0	171.3	172.0
Sugar and confectionery	291.0	203.1	179.5	201.3	177.6	180.2	186.4	184.4	176.3	172.7
Beverages	161.7	169.0	198.1	175.9	189.3	199.5	202.0	206.0	207.7	204.7
Vegetable oil and products	227.2	171.2	197.5	173.1	182.7	187.8	206.3	214.1	216.3	209.6
Textile products and apparel	135.6	146.9	152.6	149.0	151.1	152.1	153.7	154.0	154.4	154.4
Apparel	133.1	137.9	146.1	140.2	145.6	146.0	146.4	146.6	147.2	147.2
Hides, leather, and related products	145.2	164.4	178.4	170.3	176.7	177.6	180.1	181.9	179.7	180.3
Footwear	146.3	155.4	166.9	160.7	165.9	166.7	167.7	168.2	168.6	170.3
Lumber and wood products	173.8	199.2	227.2	203.7	224.2	228.7	229.6	229.3	228.7	235.5
Tobacco products	148.2	160.6	175.0	161.9	174.8	174.8	175.1	175.3	175.3	175.7

¹ Includes all processed food (except soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, and manufactured animal feeds) plus eggs and fresh and dried fruits and vegetables from farm products group. ² Fresh and dried.

Consumer Price Index, U.S. average (not seasonally adjusted)

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
	1967=100									
Consumer price index, all items	158.3	168.1	178.8	171.1	177.1	178.2	179.6	180.6	181.8	182.6
Consumer price index, less food	154.3	164.7	175.7	167.9	174.0	175.1	176.3	177.3	178.4	179.2
All food	171.9	179.9	189.3	182.1	187.7	188.6	190.9	191.7	193.6	194.6
Food away from home	171.5	183.3	196.4	186.9	193.6	195.2	197.5	199.3	200.6	201.7
Food at home	172.0	179.1	187.6	180.9	186.2	186.9	189.3	189.8	191.9	192.8
Meats ¹	164.7	181.3	171.3	182.9	171.3	170.8	170.1	171.3	174.4	175.8
Beef and veal	161.0	167.0	162.2	166.9	161.5	160.7	161.2	162.8	164.8	164.2
Pork	173.9	206.0	183.3	208.7	185.1	184.1	181.7	182.0	187.0	192.0
Poultry	152.2	159.3	154.8	161.9	152.9	158.3	157.7	157.6	157.6	161.2
Fish	197.8	221.4	244.0	227.9	241.1	241.5	244.0	248.8	250.8	254.3
Eggs	156.4	165.8	174.2	164.1	207.9	179.5	166.0	152.8	141.0	163.6
Dairy products ²	154.6	168.0	172.1	168.0	171.1	171.2	171.4	173.1	174.3	174.1
Fats and oils ³	208.5	174.6	184.3	169.7	179.5	180.7	183.5	188.5	194.7	198.7
Fruits and vegetables	168.6	175.4	194.0	177.3	194.7	196.8	203.0	195.1	196.8	194.1
Fresh	162.9	168.9	200.1	176.0	203.6	205.4	214.3	200.8	202.1	197.1
Processed	177.2	185.0	184.8	180.9	181.6	184.0	186.1	186.7	188.9	189.7
Cereals and bakery products	187.1	181.0	181.5	180.9	180.0	181.3	182.6	182.5	182.8	183.3
Sugar and sweets	260.5	221.8	224.0	217.9	219.2	222.8	226.4	230.1	232.8	232.0
Beverages, nonalcoholic	176.4	197.6	302.1	216.3	273.8	286.4	311.4	334.6	348.7	348.3
Apparel commodities less footwear	139.1	142.6	148.4	143.4	147.4	148.1	148.6	149.7	150.2	149.6
Footwear	143.6	147.7	155.5	149.6	154.4	155.4	156.2	157.0	156.8	155.9
Tobacco products	153.0	159.5	166.0	160.4	165.8	166.0	166.1	166.2	166.4	167.2
Beverages, alcoholic	141.2	145.5	149.6	147.5	148.8	149.3	149.8	150.3	150.7	151.4

¹ Beef, veal, lamb, mutton, pork, and processed meat. ² Includes butter. ³ Excludes butter.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-retail price spreads

Commodities	January-June			1976p	1977p					
	1975	1976	1977p	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Market basket ¹ :										
Retail cost (1967=100)	169.5	176.0	177.9	176.8	178.6	178.3	179.1	178.0	179.3	180.4
Farm value (1967=100)	178.0	182.8	178.0	182.7	181.1	178.0	178.9	180.1	178.0	180.7
Farm-retail spread (1967=100)	164.0	171.7	177.9	173.1	177.0	178.5	179.1	176.7	180.1	180.2
Farmer's share (%)	41	40	39	40	39	39	39	39	39	39
Beef, choice:										
Retail price ² (cts./lb.)	138.0	141.8	135.8	138.2	134.6	133.2	134.0	138.4	137.4	138.3
Carcass value ³ (cts.)	100.0	91.4	88.1	84.9	85.6	83.3	88.1	93.4	91.0	92.2
Net farm value (cts./2.28 lbs.)	88.2	80.4	77.4	74.2	74.8	73.1	78.6	82.8	79.9	81.3
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	49.8	61.4	58.4	64.0	69.8	60.1	55.4	55.6	57.5	57.0
Carcass-retail spread ⁴ (cts.)	38.0	60.4	47.7	53.3	49.0	49.9	45.9	45.0	46.4	46.1
Farm-carcass spread ⁵ (cts.)	11.8	11.0	10.7	10.7	10.8	10.2	9.5	10.6	11.1	10.9
Farmer's share (%)	64	57	57	54	56	55	59	60	58	59
Pork:										
Retail price ² (cts./lb.)	118.8	140.0	121.2	142.1	121.1	121.0	118.9	120.9	125.7	132.1
Wholesale value ³ (cts.)	91.2	100.5	84.9	98.6	85.0	82.1	80.2	86.8	90.2	92.5
Net farm value (cts./1.97 lbs.)	74.9	87.5	70.5	86.3	70.9	65.9	64.5	73.8	78.0	82.0
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	43.9	62.5	50.7	55.8	50.2	55.1	54.4	47.1	47.7	50.1
Carcass-retail spread ⁴ (cts.)	27.6	39.5	36.3	43.5	36.1	38.9	38.7	34.1	35.5	39.6
Farm-carcass spread ⁵ (cts.)	16.3	13.0	14.4	12.3	14.1	16.2	15.7	13.0	12.2	10.5
Farmer's share (%)	63	62	58	61	59	54	54	61	62	62
Milk, fresh:										
Retail price (cts./½ gal.)	78.4	82.5	83.6	82.1	83.6	83.5	83.4	83.5	83.9	83.4
Farm value (cts./4.39 lbs. Class I)	39.9	46.2	44.7	44.8	44.9	44.3	44.0	44.4	45.5	45.5
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	38.5	36.3	38.9	37.3	38.7	39.2	39.4	39.1	38.4	37.9
Farmer's share (%)	51	56	53	65	54	53	53	53	54	55
Chicken, frying:										
Retail price (cts./lb.)	58.9	61.3	59.5	62.6	58.8	61.3	61.2	60.7	60.5	62.1
Farm value (cts./1.41 lbs. broilers)	33.7	34.0	33.0	36.4	31.9	34.0	33.7	35.4	35.0	36.8
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	25.2	27.3	26.5	26.2	26.9	27.3	27.5	25.3	25.5	25.3
Farmer's share (%)	57	55	55	58	54	55	55	58	58	59
Eggs, large grade A										
Retail price (cts./doz.)	76.3	81.2	86.0	81.0	103.4	89.0	81.2	75.4	68.7	80.9
Farm value (cts./1.03 doz.)	49.2	54.2	56.6	53.9	71.5	56.8	56.3	46.7	41.3	52.4
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	27.1	27.0	29.4	27.1	31.9	32.2	24.9	28.7	27.4	28.5
Farmer's share (%)	64	67	66	67	69	64	69	62	60	65
Bread, white:										
Retail price (cts./lb.)	36.8	35.3	35.4	35.4	35.3	35.2	35.7	35.5	35.3	35.6
Farm value (cts./0.867 lb. wheat)	4.4	4.3	2.6	4.1	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.4
Farm value (cts. for all farm ingredients)	6.9	6.2	4.4	6.0	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.1
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	29.9	29.1	31.0	29.4	30.7	30.5	31.1	31.1	31.3	31.5
Farmer's share (%)	19	18	12	17	13	13	13	12	11	12
Lettuce:										
Retail price (cts./head)	41.4	41.2	45.3	41.7	48.4	43.2	46.6	41.4	45.4	44.0
Farm value (cts./1.88 lbs.)	12.8	14.1	14.0	15.8	16.2	15.5	10.4	10.3	10.4	11.0
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	28.6	27.1	31.3	25.9	32.2	27.7	36.2	31.1	35.0	33.0
Farmer's share (%)	31	34	31	38	33	36	22	25	23	25
Potatoes:										
Retail price (cts./10 lbs.)	112.6	158.7	153.3	161.9	142.0	144.8	148.2	166.5	197.4	186.1
Farm value (cts./10.42 lbs.)	37.2	50.3	42.9	44.8	37.1	38.6	42.7	54.1	49.7	53.6
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	75.4	108.4	110.4	117.1	104.9	106.2	105.5	112.4	147.7	132.6
Farmer's share (%)	33	32	28	28	26	27	29	32	25	29
Tomatoes:										
Retail price (cts./lb.)	60.4	58.5	73.5	62.0	82.6	70.9	90.0	77.3	57.6	54.5
Farm value (cts./1.18 lbs.)	25.0	23.1	30.4	23.2	38.2	37.5	31.2	27.0	21.9	27.0
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	35.4	35.4	43.1	38.8	44.4	33.4	58.8	50.3	35.7	27.5
Farmer's share (%)	41	39	41	37	46	53	35	35	38	50
Orange juice, frozen concentrate:										
Retail price (cts./6-oz. can)	27.9	29.2	31.6	29.2	28.8	32.1	33.1	33.9	33.8	34.6
Farm value (cts./3.08 lbs.)	8.4	10.4	9.6	11.0	9.3	8.9	9.0	9.7	10.8	11.3
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	19.5	18.8	22.0	18.2	19.5	23.2	24.1	24.2	23.0	23.3
Farmer's share (%)	30	36	30	38	32	28	27	29	32	33
Margarine:										
Retail price (cts./lb.)	67.2	53.1	54.5	51.0	52.9	53.2	53.9	56.1	58.1	59.6
Farm value (cts. for veg. oil and NFDM)	22.8	14.4	21.9	19.3	19.6	22.9	24.7	24.9	24.6	21.0
Farm-retail spread (cts.)	44.4	38.7	32.6	31.7	33.3	30.3	29.2	31.2	33.5	38.6
Farmer's share (%)	34	27	40	38	37	43	46	44	42	35

¹ For a market basket of U.S. farm foods representing the average quantities purchased annually per household in 1960-61. Retail prices are from Bureau of Labor Statistics unless otherwise noted. The farm value is the payment to farmers for quantity of farm product equivalent to retail unit, less allowance for byproduct. Farm values are based on prices at first point of sale and may include marketing charges such as grading and packing for some commodities. The farm-retail spread, the difference between the retail price and the farm value, represents charges for assembling, processing, transporting, and distributing these foods. ² Composite monthly average prices of all cuts adjusted for volume sold at special prices derived from BLS and food chain prices. ³ For a quantity equivalent to 1 lb. retail cuts: Beef, 1.41 lb. of carcass beef (yield grade 3); pork, 1.07 lb. of wholesale cuts. ⁴ Represents charges for retailing and other marketing services such as fabricating, wholesaling, and in-city transportation. ⁵ Represents charges made for livestock marketing, processing, and transportation to city where consumed. p Preliminary.

Food Supply and Use

Civilian per capita consumption of major food commodities (retail weight)¹

Commodity	1960	1970 ²	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976 ³	1977 as percentage of 1976
	Pounds								
Meats:	134.2	151.2	156.4	153.3	142.3	152.2	145.2	154.6	100
Beef	64.3	84.1	83.6	85.9	81.1	86.4	88.9	95.4	97
Veal	5.2	2.4	2.2	1.8	1.5	1.9	3.5	3.4	94
Lamb and mutton	4.3	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.7	94
Pork (excluding lard)	60.4	61.8	67.8	62.7	57.3	61.9	51.0	54.1	105
Fish (edible weight)	10.3	11.8	11.5	12.5	12.9	12.2	12.2	12.9	98
Poultry products:									
Eggs	42.4	39.5	39.9	39.1	37.3	36.6	35.4	35.0	98
Chicken (ready-to-cook)	27.8	40.5	40.4	42.0	40.7	41.1	40.3	43.3	103
Turkey (ready-to-cook)	6.2	8.0	8.4	9.0	8.5	8.9	8.6	9.2	99
Dairy products:									
Cheese	8.3	11.5	12.2	13.2	13.7	14.6	14.5	15.9	106
Condensed and evaporated milk	13.7	7.1	6.8	6.3	6.0	5.6	5.0	3.9	92
Fluid milk and cream (product weight)	321.0	296.0	296.0	298.0	293.0	288.0	291.1	292.0	99
Ice cream (product weight)	18.3	17.7	17.5	17.4	17.5	17.5	18.7	18.1	98
Fats and Oils—Total fat content	45.3	53.3	52.2	54.2	54.3	53.2	53.3	56.0	99
Butter (actual weight)	7.5	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.4	98
Margarine (actual weight)	9.4	11.0	11.1	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.2	12.5	95
Lard	7.6	4.7	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.8	104
Shortening	12.6	17.3	16.8	17.7	17.3	17.0	17.3	18.2	99
Other edible fats and oils	11.5	18.2	18.0	19.7	20.8	20.3	20.3	22.0	98
Fruits:									
Fresh:	89.6	79.5	77.6	75.1	73.8	76.7	81.9	84.6	96
Citrus	32.5	27.7	28.2	26.3	26.4	26.8	28.8	28.3	96
Noncitrus	57.1	51.8	49.5	48.7	47.4	49.9	53.1	56.3	96
Processed:									
Canned fruit	22.6	23.3	21.9	21.4	21.3	19.7	19.3	19.2	96
Canned juice	13.0	14.6	15.9	15.5	15.9	14.7	14.8	15.0	98
Frozen (including juices)	9.1	9.8	10.2	10.1	11.2	11.3	12.6	12.6	92
Chilled citrus juices	2.1	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.7	6.2	88
Dried	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.0	2.6	2.5	3.1	2.3	117
Vegetables:									
Fresh ³	96.0	91.0	91.8	90.7	92.4	93.6	93.9	94.4	99
Canned (excluding potatoes and sweetpotatoes)	43.4	51.1	51.2	52.2	54.3	52.7	52.0	52.2	101
Frozen (excluding potatoes)	7.0	9.6	9.7	9.9	10.8	10.1	9.7	9.2	113
Potatoes ⁴	104.0	114.0	115.0	115.4	112.6	110.7	122.5	119.0	100
Sweetpotatoes ⁴	6.5	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.7	5.3	5.5	5.5	100
Grains:									
Wheat flour ⁴	118	110	110	109	109	106	107	111	100
Rice	6.1	6.7	7.7	7.0	7.0	7.5	7.7	7.2	107
Other:									
Coffee	11.6	10.5	10.0	10.5	10.1	9.5	9.0	9.4	100
Tea	.6	.7	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	112
Cocoa	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.6	3.0	100
Peanuts (shelled)	4.9	5.9	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.6	6.3	106
Dry edible beans	7.3	5.9	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.3	97
Melons	23.2	21.2	20.5	19.9	19.7	17.2	17.5	18.8	97
Sugar (refined)	97.3	101.9	102.4	102.8	101.5	96.6	90.2	94.7	100

¹ Quantity in pounds, retail weight unless otherwise shown. Data on calendar year basis except for dried fruits, fresh citrus fruits, peanuts, and rice which are on a crop-year basis. ² Preliminary. ³ Commercial production for sale as fresh produce. ⁴ Including fresh equivalent of processed. ⁵ White, whole wheat, and semolina flour including use in bakery products.

Note: Historical consumption and supply-utilization data for food may be found in *Food Consumption, Prices, and Expenditures*, Ag. Econ. Report 138 and annual supplements, ERS, USDA.

Per capita food consumption indexes¹

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977 ²
	1967=100								
Meat, poultry, and fish	102.4	105.0	107.3	107.2	100.8	106.0	102.9	109.4	109.5
Meat	102.1	104.1	107.1	105.3	97.8	104.4	101.1	107.2	106.9
Poultry	103.3	107.1	107.9	112.8	108.8	110.6	108.2	116.1	118.2
Fish	105.0	110.7	107.9	117.5	121.3	114.7	113.9	120.1	117.8
Eggs	96.6	97.0	98.0	91.6	91.6	89.9	87.0	86.0	84.3
Dairy products ³	100.3	99.0	99.2	99.6	99.4	99.4	100.1	101.2	99.9
Fats and oils	105.0	106.6	105.2	109.3	109.8	106.9	107.8	113.3	110.6
Animal	95.2	90.5	90.7	84.1	78.7	76.7	73.6	69.6	67.7
Vegetable	110.3	115.3	113.2	123.1	126.8	123.4	126.5	137.2	134.0
Fruits ⁴	100.7	102.6	103.2	101.2	102.7	102.4	108.9	111.1	106.5
Fresh	98.3	101.3	99.4	95.7	94.4	98.6	104.6	108.6	105.0
Processed	102.7	103.8	106.5	105.9	110.0	105.8	112.7	113.3	108.0
Vegetables ⁵	100.9	101.4	101.7	102.6	105.3	104.1	103.6	104.9	104.5
Fresh	99.1	99.6	100.0	99.8	101.2	101.2	101.7	102.5	101.3
Processed	104.3	104.7	105.0	107.8	112.8	109.5	107.3	109.4	110.4
Potatoes and sweetpotatoes	106.5	113.3	114.2	114.0	113.4	114.6	118.1	114.2	114.9
Fresh	98.0	94.7	90.8	91.6	83.7	79.9	90.9	87.2	85.6
Processed	110.2	121.5	124.4	123.9	126.4	129.8	130.0	126.0	127.8
Beans, peas, and nuts	98.7	98.4	100.0	103.8	104.6	100.4	107.3	104.2	106.7
Cereal products	100.8	97.9	98.6	97.6	97.8	96.0	96.5	99.0	99.2
Sugar	103.9	106.3	106.5	108.6	109.7	106.6	102.9	109.7	110.6
Coffee, tea, and cocoa	96.7	93.9	92.4	98.2	96.8	89.4	85.1	88.8	85.8
Total food	101.6	102.7	103.6	104.1	102.2	102.8	102.1	105.5	105.1
Animal products	100.9	101.9	103.6	103.3	98.7	102.0	100.1	104.1	104.1
Crops ⁶	102.1	103.0	103.3	104.4	105.7	103.6	104.5	107.2	106.2

¹ Civilian consumption only. Quantities of individual foods are combined in terms of 1957-59 retail prices. ² Preliminary. ³ Includes butter. ⁴ Excludes melons and baby food. ⁵ Excludes soup, baby food, dry beans and peas, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. ⁶ Includes melons, nuts, soup, and baby food in addition to groups shown separately.

FARM INDEX
U.S. Department of Agriculture
July, 1977

Fueling U.S. Agriculture



KEEPING UP WITH ERS RESEARCH

(Without Getting Bugged Down)

You don't need a PhD in economics to stay up to date on ERS research. Each month *Farm Index* magazine brings you agricultural economic trends and ERS research findings in an easy to read, easy to understand style. Complicated reports and studies become interesting feature articles, written in popular magazine style.

If you do hold a PhD in economics, *Farm Index* is also for you. Thousands of professional economists subscribe to glean valuable information from interesting stories that summarize major ERS research, from monthly "outlook" projections of trends, and from a table of leading economic indices.

For a free sample copy, write: *Farm Index*, Room 1664 South Bldg., Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. Subscriptions may be ordered from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Subscription price is \$7.70 yearly (\$9.65 foreign).

Livestock and Products: Prices, Supplies, and Use

Livestock and products output and prices

Output	1976					1977					1978
	I ¹	II	III	IV	Annual	I	II	III ³	IV ¹	Annual ¹	I ¹
Beef (mil. lb.)	6,492	6,145	6,618	6,412	25,667	6,329	6,162	6,250	6,250	24,991	6,150
Change (pct.) ²	+11	+10	+11	+2	+8	-2	0	-6	-3	+3	-3
Pork (mil. lb.)	2,896	2,782	2,951	3,590	12,219	3,276	3,186	3,050	3,500	13,012	3,500
Change (pct.) ²	-5	-5	+17	+27	+8	+13	+15	+3	-3	+6	+7
Veal (mil. lb.)	206	178	205	224	813	211	186	195	180	772	145
Change (pct.) ²	+24	-2	-12	-9	-2	+2	+4	-5	-20	-5	-31
Lamb and mutton (mil. lb.)	95	82	92	92	361	90	86	89	88	353	85
Change (pct.) ²	-6	-15	-12	-6	-10	-5	+5	-3	-4	-2	-6
Red meats (mil. lb.)	9,689	9,187	9,866	10,318	39,060	9,906	9,620	9,584	10,018	39,128	9,880
Change (pct.) ²	+6	+4	+12	+9	+8	+2	+5	-3	-3	0	0
Broilers (mil. lb.)	2,116	2,314	2,372	2,186	8,988	2,156	2,399	2,440	2,270	9,265	2,260
Change (pct.) ²	+15	+12	+14	+10	+13	+2	+4	+3	+4	+3	+5
Turkeys (mil. lb.)	207	369	710	664	1,950	210	365	690	665	1,930	230
Change (pct.) ²	+24	+28	+14	+5	+14	+1	-1	-3	0	-1	+10
Total meats (mil. lb.)	12,012	11,870	12,948	13,168	49,998	12,272	12,384	12,714	12,953	50,323	12,320
Change (pct.) ²	+8	+7	+13	+9	+9	+2	+4	-2	-2	+1	0
Eggs (mil. doz.)	1,358	1,344	1,342	1,360	5,404	1,330	1,338	1,330	1,360	5,360	1,345
Change (pct.) ²	+1	+1	0	0	+1	-2	0	-1	0	-1	+1
Milk (bil. lb.)	29.2	32.4	30.2	28.6	120.4	29.8	33.1	30.7	29.1	122.7	30.6
Change (pct.) ²	+4	+4	+6	+4	+4	+2	+2	+2	+2	+2	+3
Total livestock and products (1974=100)	101.8	104.4	107.9	107.0	105.3	103.3	107.5	106.9	106.4	106.0	104.4
Change (pct.) ²	+6.3	+5.2	+9.1	+6.2	+6.7	+1.5	+3.0	-.9	-.6	+7	+1.1

Rices

Choice steers, Omaha (\$ per cwt.)	38.71	41.42	37.30	39.00	39.11	37.88	40.77	39-41	40-42	—	41-43
Barrows and gilts, 7-markets (\$ per cwt.)	47.99	49.19	43.88	34.25	43.11	39.08	40.87	43-45	37-39	—	35-37
Slaughter lambs, choice, San Angelo (\$ per cwt.)	51.50	58.63	43.54	45.81	49.87	52.98	55.76	47-49	48-50	—	52-54
Broilers, 9-city wholesale (cts. per lb.) ³	42.2	41.7	41.5	35.5	40.2	40.9	42.3	42-44	38-40	—	39-41
Turkeys, N.Y., wholesale (cts. per lb.) ⁴	49.3	48.2	48.5	49.0	48.8	50.2	51.5	51-53	53-55	—	48-50
Eggs, cartonized, Grade A large, N.Y. (cts. per doz.)	68.0	63.1	71.8	78.4	70.3	74.9	57.8	62-64	69-71	—	66-68
Milk, all at farm, (\$ per cwt.)	9.87	9.26	9.66	9.86	9.66	9.54	9.38	9.65-9.75	10.30-10.50	—	10.25-10.35
Livestock prices received by farmers (1967=100)	180	185	175	165	177	172	174	179	180	—	182

¹ Forecast. ² Change from year-earlier. ³ Weighted average. ⁴ 8-16 pound young hens.

Dairy:

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Milk production:										
Total milk (mil. lb.)	59,377	61,621	62,962	10,453	9,351	10,562	10,741	10,295	11,103	10,715
Milk per cow (lb.)	5,314	5,572	5,727	947	849	960	977	1,029	1,013	977
Number of milk cows (thou.)	11,174	11,060	10,995	11,041	11,013	11,003	10,989	10,978	10,963	10,965
Milk prices, Minnesota-Wisconsin,										
3.6% fat (\$/cwt.) ¹	6.93	8.47	8.41	8.71	8.16	8.31	8.60	8.62	8.60	8.65
Price of 16% dairy ration (\$/ton)	135	137	149	145	151	148	148	152	149	141
Milk-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	1.30	1.54	1.48	1.44	1.48	1.47	1.46	1.43	1.49	1.56
Stocks, beginning										
Total milk equiv. (mil. lb.) ³	5,886	3,844	5,708	6,596	6,207	6,588	7,006	7,725	8,977	9,988
Commercial (mil. lb.)	5,576	3,719	5,299	6,496	5,388	5,403	5,529	6,976	6,541	7,058
Government (mil. lb.)	310	124	410	100	819	1,185	1,478	1,749	2,437	2,930
Imports, total milk equiv. (mil. lb.) ³	1,861	580	797	140	114	116	115	103	147	—
USDA net removals:										
Total milk equiv. (mil. lb.) ³	2,341	84	4,744	63.5	882.7	416.8	601.6	1,043.2	953.7	501.1
Butter:										
Production (mil. lb.)	582.8	529.9	599.6	71.5	96.2	98.4	100.4	103.9	95.0	—
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	49.2	10.9	47.1	80.9	67.6	94.3	106.4	128.5	164.0	196.8
Wholesale price, Grade A Chicago (cts./lb.)	68.4	87.9	96.0	105.8	90.8	92.7	100.1	100.7	100.7	100.7
USDA net removals (mil. lb.)	81.8	.4	180.1	—	31.5	11.6	25.9	43.7	35.1	16.0
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	497.1	460.7	374.7	70.0	53.8	83.7	65.3	57.0	47.1	—
American cheese:										
Production (mil. lb.)	885.8	1,072.1	1,115.0	189.4	158.8	183.4	193.8	211.9	200.3	—
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	420.9	307.8	411.4	418.8	417.1	403.5	422.5	447.5	491.5	514.3
Wholesale price, Wisconsin assembly pt. (cts./lb.)	78.5	95.4	95.4	100.1	92.6	93.8	97.9	97.9	97.4	97.1
USDA net removals (mil. lb.)	63.2	4.7	102.6	6.2	23.3	17.8	6.6	14.0	23.1	16.8
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	840.6	956.6	939.5	160.3	154.0	157.6	162.9	155.9	163.0	—
Other cheese:										
Production (mil. lb.)	563.7	626.9	645.6	107.2	95.2	115.8	108.1	114.6	113.8	—
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	73.1	60.8	67.1	64.9	68.7	67.1	64.5	64.0	67.0	73.3
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	630.3	696.9	715.3	120.8	106.7	130.8	119.8	122.9	124.6	—
Nonfat dry milk:										
Production (mil. lb.)	628.8	513.6	590.6	96.3	72.3	87.5	107.1	119.6	132.7	—
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	293.2	468.9	480.6	481.9	461.6	469.5	465.4	520.9	538.8	579.2
Wholesale price, avg. manf. (cts./lb.)	60.4	63.7	64.7	63.2	62.3	62.8	65.3	67.7	67.9	—
USDA net removals (mil. lb.)	369.4	63.2	226.8	27.6	21.3	2.4	37.3	62.8	78.2	67.8
Commercial disappearance (mil. lb.)	283.4	375.9	331.9	70.2	54.0	91.2	42.6	43.8	47.3	—
Frozen dessert production (mil. gal.) ⁴	584.7	579.6	569.9	121.4	75.7	101.1	98.0	104.3	120.8	—

¹ Manufacturing grade milk. ² Pounds of ration equal in value to 1 lb. of milk. ³ Milk equivalent, fat-solids basis. ⁴ Ice cream, ice milk, and sherbet.

Poultry and eggs:

Items	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Eggs										
Farm production (mil.)	32,031	32,422	31,989	5,434	4,936	5,551	5,363	5,477	5,211	5,297
Average number of layers on farms (mil.)	278	276	273	270	277	276	272	269	267	267
Rate of lay (eggs per layer)	11,542	11,767	11,718	20.1	17.8	20.2	19.7	20.4	19.5	19.9
Cartoned price, New York, grade A large (cts./doz.) ¹	60.9	65.6	66.4	68.2	76.2	67.4	61.4	55.1	57.0	62.4
Price of laying feed (\$/ton)	148	146	162	162	161	161	163	166	162	153
Egg-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	6.9	7.6	7.0	6.8	8.2	7.3	6.8	5.9	5.8	6.6
Stocks, beginning of period:										
Shell (thou. cases)	36	22	28	23	29	44	42	42	33	40
Frozen (mil. lb.)	54.2	36.3	26.1	30.1	26.9	24.9	24.7	25.4	28.0	31.6
Replacement chicks hatched (mil.)	253.0	267.6	284.3	38.6	41.3	51.0	54.8	52.5	44.4	37.4
Broilers										
Federally inspected slaughter, certified (mil. lb.)	3,894	4,430	4,555	766.0	659.2	783.2	744.9	809.9	843.7	—
Wholesale price, 9-city, (cts./lb.)	42.5	41.9	41.6	43.2	42.1	41.9	41.4	42.2	43.3	44.3
Price of broiler grower feed (\$/ton)	165	162	181	181	178	179	183	187	184	175
Broiler-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	3.0	3.0	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.0
Stocks, beginning of period (mil. lb.)	37.2	22.3	32.9	20.0	27.4	24.6	26.6	24.8	27.3	34.1
Average weekly placements of broiler chicks, 21 States (mil.)	58.8	56.3	68.9	65.2	64.8	69.5	71.7	71.9	71.4	66.9
Turkeys										
Federally inspected slaughter, certified (mil. lb.)	455.4	575.2	574.9	213.9	58.7	80.3	78.9	110.0	176.5	—
Wholesale price, New York, 8-16 lb. young hens (cts./lb.)	49.8	48.7	50.9	49.5	49.7	52.3	53.5	50.8	50.0	50.8
Price of turkey grower feed (\$/ton)	167	167	191	187	186	188	195	200	196	188
Turkey-feed price ratio (lb.) ²	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.6
Stocks, beginning of period (mil. lb.)	275.0	195.2	203.4	177.3	190.2	167.8	142.3	130.3	136.3	201.2
Poults hatched (mil.)	92.1	102.9	101.0	15.4	12.7	18.1	19.5	21.0	18.9	15.4

¹ Price of cartoned eggs to volume buyers for delivery to retailers; wholesale price series discontinued June 1. ² Pounds of feed equal in value to 1 dozen eggs or 1 lb. of broiler or turkey liveweight.

Meat animals:¹

Items	January-June			1976		1977				
	1974	1975	1976	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Cattle on feed (7-States):										
Number on feed (thou. head) ¹	9,353	6,369	8,537	7,079	7,873	7,556	7,280	7,196	7,053	6,872
Placed on feed (thou. head) ²	7,851	7,780	8,495	1,169	1,362	1,526	1,658	1,599	1,448	1,491
Marketings (thou. head)	9,195	7,614	9,282	1,521	1,567	1,690	1,564	1,489	1,548	1,442
Other disappearance (thou. head)	863	529	671	56	112	112	178	253	101	55
Beef steer-corn price ratio, Omaha (bu.) ³	15.9	14.7	15.0	13.4	16.0	15.9	17.5	19.0	19.2	21.5
Hog-corn price ratio, Omaha (bu.) ³	12.2	14.9	20.9	16.8	16.8	15.9	16.0	18.8	20.7	23.8
Commercial slaughter (thou. head)										
Cattle	17,331	19,283	21,083	3,484	3,299	3,616	3,272	3,229	3,626	—
Steers	9,880	9,423	9,364	1,651	1,488	1,711	1,603	1,607	1,809	—
Heifers	4,027	4,736	6,140	941	934	1,023	920	910	957	—
Cows	3,080	4,643	5,078	808	808	806	677	706	780	—
Bulls and stags	344	481	501	84	69	76	72	76	80	—
Calves	1,199	2,205	2,565	411	443	519	445	419	422	—
Sheep and lambs	4,302	3,869	3,277	547	474	595	562	492	570	—
Hogs	41,163	36,567	34,252	5,131	6,096	7,545	6,658	6,134	5,957	—
Commercial production (mil. lb.)										
Beef	11,072	11,435	12,637	2,111	1,981	2,188	1,990	1,991	2,181	—
Veal	167	348	384	63	63	71	59	61	66	—
Lamb and mutton	228	197	177	28	27	34	31	25	29	—
Pork	6,909	5,967	5,678	847	1,013	1,256	1,120	1,044	1,022	—
Market prices					Dol. per 100 pounds					
Slaughter cattle:										
Choice steers, Omaha	42.74	41.88	40.06	37.92	37.98	37.28	40.08	41.98	40.24	40.94
Utility cows, Omaha	30.06	20.50	27.51	26.80	23.88	26.67	27.63	26.57	25.64	25.23
Choice vealers, S. St. Paul	58.78	40.43	47.42	34.51	54.88	56.26	52.88	54.92	51.60	46.95
Feeder cattle:										
Choice, Kansas City, 600-700 lb.	43.79	31.03	41.54	39.18	37.86	38.95	41.81	41.72	39.90	40.64
Slaughter hogs:										
Barrows and gilts, No. 1&2, Omaha ⁴	34.82	43.60	49.62	48.96	41.08	38.11	37.64	42.60	45.07	46.62
Barrows and gilts, 7-markets	33.20	42.73	48.59	48.26	40.18	37.53	36.97	41.79	43.86	45.76
Feeder pigs:										
S. Mo. 40-50 lb. (per head)	28.67	39.55	46.46	30.45	33.24	38.58	41.49	40.91	35.18	36.90
Slaughter sheep and lambs:										
Lambs, Choice, San Angelo	42.72	43.96	55.06	47.81	51.25	55.70	59.62	55.56	52.10	50.42
Ewes, Good, San Angelo	18.54	16.02	18.08	19.44	19.25	22.15	18.19	16.62	16.00	14.58
Feeder lambs:										
Choice, San Angelo	39.86	39.88	54.20	49.38	54.81	56.25	59.19	51.38	46.15	47.33
Wholesale meat prices, Midwest⁵										
Choice steer beef, 600-700 lb.	68.07	68.44	62.96	58.20	58.92	57.12	60.54	64.44	62.62	63.40
Canner and Cutter cow beef	61.78	41.74	55.55	53.48	51.09	56.05	56.42	53.31	52.42	51.69
Pork loins, 8-14 lb.	70.58	66.53	93.09	97.40	80.66	72.36	73.42	83.14	87.94	91.66
Pork bellies, 12-14 lb.	46.30	67.59	61.36	74.10	52.08	48.91	55.23	57.10	58.51	53.55
Hams, skinned, 14-17 lb.	59.64	71.34	83.07	77.32	72.82	75.13	63.70	70.39	72.10	72.58

Items	First Half			1976				1977		
	1975	1976	1977	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
Cattle on feed (23-States):										
Number on feed (thou. head) ¹	9,619	12,327	11,945	12,327	10,895	10,053	9,280	11,945	10,618	9,750
Placed on feed (thou. head) ²	10,308	11,042	11,612	5,427	5,615	5,702	8,767	5,597	6,015	—
Marketings (thou. head)	10,540	12,285	12,611	6,346	5,939	6,201	5,689	6,442	6,169	7,6048
Other disappearance (thou. head)	845	1,031	1,196	513	518	274	413	482	714	—
Hogs and pigs (14-States):⁴										
Inventory (thou. head) ¹	47,170	41,855	47,020	41,855	40,865	46,085	48,785	47,020	44,000	46,140
Breeding (thou. head) ¹	6,283	6,368	6,774	6,368	6,706	7,049	6,813	6,774	7,001	7,235
Market (thou. head) ¹	40,887	35,487	40,246	35,487	34,159	39,036	41,972	40,246	36,999	38,905
Farrowings (thou. head)	4,206	4,959	5,202	2,049	2,910	2,523	2,520	2,319	2,883	7,2649
Pig crop (thou. head)	30,009	36,044	37,080	14,566	21,478	18,416	17,939	15,723	21,357	—

¹ Beginning of period. ² Other disappearance excluded in 1973; not comparable with 1974 and 1975. ³ Bushels of corn equal in value to 100 pounds liveweight. ⁴ 220-240 lb. ⁵ Prior to Oct. 1975, Chicago. ⁶ Quarters are Dec. preceding year-Feb. (I), Mar-May (II), June-Aug (III), and Sept-Nov (IV). ⁷ Intentions.

Items	January-June			1976		1977				
	1974	1975	1976	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
U.S. wool price, Boston¹ (cts./lb.)	199	130	177	183	188	183	183	183	183	183
Imported wool price, Boston² (cts./lb.)	242	180	209	211	222	226	227	225	224	225
U.S. mill consumption, scoured										
Apparel wool (thou. lb.)	40,716	42,451	58,553	7,324	8,253	10,008	7,925	7,795	n.a.	n.a.
Carpet wool (thou. lb.)	11,310	7,699	7,056	879	1,051	1,491	924	1,077	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Wool price delivered at U.S. mills, clean basis, Graded Territory 64's (20.60-22.04 microns) staple 2½" and up. Prior to January 1976 reported as: Territory fine, good French combing and staple. ² Wool price delivered at U.S. mills, clean basis, Australian 64's, type 78, including duty (25.5 cents). Prior to January 1976 reported as: Australian 64's combing, excluding duty. ³ No quotations reported. n.a. not available.

Crops and Products: Prices, Supplies, and Use

Supply and utilization of major crops¹

	Domestic measure ²				Metric measure ²			
Commodity	1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78		1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78	
			Projected	Probable variability*			Projected	Probable variability*
Wheat:								
Mil. acres					Mil. hectares			
Area								
Planted	75.1	80.2	74.4	—	30.4	32.5	30.1	—
Harvested	69.6	70.8	66.6	—	28.2	28.7	27.0	—
Bu. per acre					Metric tons per hectare			
Yield per harvested unit	30.7	30.3	30.6	—	2.1	2.0	2.1	—
Mil. bu.					Mil. metric tons			
Beginning stocks	435	664	1,109	—	11.8	18.1	30.2	—
Production	2,135	2,147	2,041	+50 to -50	58.1	58.4	55.5	+1.4 to -1.4
Imports	2	3	2	—	.1	.1	.1	—
Supply, total	2,572	2,814	3,152	—	70.0	76.6	85.8	—
Domestic	735	755	878	+65 to -65	20.0	20.6	23.9	+1.8 to -1.8
Exports	1,173	950	1,000	+100 to -100	31.9	25.8	27.2	+2.7 to -2.7
Use, total	1,908	1,705	1,878	+150 to -150	51.9	46.4	51.1	+4.1 to -4.1
Ending stocks	664	1,109	1,274	+200 to -200	18.1	30.2	34.7	+5.4 to -5.4
Dol. per bu.					Dol. per metric ton			
Price received by farmers	3.55	³ 2.85	2.10-2.30	—	130.44	³ 104.72	77-85	—
Price, Kansas City, No. 1 HRW	3.74	2.88	2.33	—	137.42	105.82	85.61	—
Rice:								
Mil. acres					Mil. hectares			
Area								
Allotment	1.80	1.80	1.80	—	.73	.73	.73	—
Planted	2.82	2.51	2.21	—	1.14	1.02	.90	—
Harvested	2.80	2.50	2.20	—	1.13	1.01	.89	—
Lb. per acre					Metric tons per hectare			
Yield per harvested unit	4,567	4,679	4,569	—	5.12	5.24	5.12	—
Mil. cwt.					Mil. metric tons			
Beginning stocks	7.1	36.9	44.3	—	.32	1.67	2.01	—
Production	128.0	117.0	100.6	+5 to -5	5.80	5.31	4.56	+2.23 to -.23
Imports	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Supply, total	135.1	153.9	144.9	—	6.12	6.98	6.57	—
Domestic	40.2	43.8	45.3	+2 to -2	1.82	1.98	2.05	+0.09 to -.09
Exports	56.5	65.8	64.7	+5 to -5	2.56	2.99	2.93	+2.23 to -.23
Use, total	96.7	109.6	110.0	+5 to -5	4.39	4.97	4.98	+2.23 to -.23
Ending stocks	36.9	44.3	34.9	+7 to -7	1.67	2.01	1.59	+3.32 to -.32
Difference unaccounted	+1.5	—	—	—	+0.6	—	—	—
Dol. per cwt.					Dol. per metric ton			
Price received by farmers	8.34	³ 6.70	7.00-7.50	—	183.86	³ 147.71	154-165	—
Price, long-grain milled, S.W. La. . .	17.20	⁴ 14.60	—	—	379.19	⁴ 321.87	—	—
Feed grains: ⁵								
Mil. acres					Mil. hectares ¹			
Area								
Planted	123.4	129.5	128.7	—	49.9	52.3	52.1	—
Harvested	105.1	106.8	107.9	—	42.5	43.2	43.7	—
Tons per acre					Metric tons per hectare			
Yield per harvested unit	1.93	1.99	1.97	—	4.34	4.46	4.42	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Supply and utilization of major crops ¹ —Continued²

Commodity	Domestic measure ³				Metric measure ³			
	1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78		1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78	
			Projected	Probable variability *			Projected	Probable variability *
	Mil. short tons				Mil. metric tons			
Beginning stocks	16.8	19.1	33.6	—	15.2	17.3	30.4	—
Production	203.3	212.4	212.7	+11 to -11	184.4	192.7	193.0	+10 to -10
Imports . . . . .	.5	.3	.3	—	.5	.3	.3	—
Supply, total	220.6	231.8	246.6	—	200.1	210.3	223.7	—
Feed	127.6	123.3	130.6	+8 to -8	115.7	111.9	118.4	+7 to -7
Food, seed, and industrial uses	18.8	19.8	20.4	—	17.1	18.0	18.5	—
Domestic, total	146.4	143.1	151.0	+8 to -8	132.8	129.9	136.9	+7 to -7
Exports	55.1	55.1	48.0	+4 to -4	50.0	50.0	43.6	+4 to -4
Use, total	201.5	198.2	199.0	+10 to -10	182.8	179.9	180.5	+9 to -9
Ending stocks	19.1	33.6	47.6	+8 to -8	17.3	30.4	43.2	+7 to -7
Corn:								
	Mil. acres				Mil. hectares			
Area								
Planted	78.2	84.1	82.4	—	31.6	34.0	33.3	—
Harvested	67.2	71.1	69.8	—	27.2	28.8	28.2	—
	Bu. per acre				Metric tons per hectare			
Yield per harvested unit	86.2	87.4	87.3	—	6.41	5.49	5.48	—
	Mil. bu.				Mil. metric tons			
Beginning stocks	359	398	901	—	9.1	10.1	22.9	—
Production	5,797	6,216	6,092	+400 to -400	147.3	157.9	154.7	+10.2 to -10.2
Imports	2	2	1	—	.1	.1	(⁶)	—
Supply, total	6,158	6,616	6,994	—	156.5	168.1	177.6	—
Feed	3,558	3,550	3,750	+300 to -300	90.4	90.2	95.3	+7.6 to -7.6
Food, seed, and industrial uses	491	515	530	+10 to -10	12.5	13.1	13.5	+2 to -2
Domestic, total	4,049	4,065	4,280	+300 to -300	102.9	103.3	108.8	+7.6 to -7.6
Exports	1,711	1,650	1,450	+150 to -150	43.5	41.9	36.8	+3.8 to -3.8
Use, total	5,760	5,715	5,730	+400 to -400	146.4	145.2	145.6	+10.2 to -10.2
Ending stocks	398	901	1,264	+300 to -300	10.1	22.9	32.0	+7.6 to -7.6
	Dol. per bu.				Dol. per metric ton			
Price received by farmers	2.54	³ 2.20	1.90-2.10	—	99.99	³ 86.61	75-83	—
Price, Chi., No. 2 yellow	2.75	⁴ 2.41	—	—	108.26	⁴ 94.88	—	—
Soybeans:								
	Mil. acres				Mil. hectares			
Area								
Planted	54.7	50.3	59.3	—	22.1	20.4	24.0	—
Harvested	53.8	49.4	58.2	—	21.8	20.0	23.6	—
	Bu. per acre				Metric tons per hectare			
Yield per harvested unit	28.8	25.6	27.5	+1.5 to -1.5	1.94	1.72	1.85	+1 to -1
	Mil. bu.				Mil. metric tons			
Beginning stocks	185	245	75	+10 to -10	5.0	6.7	2.0	+3 to -3
Production	1,546	1,265	1,602	+85 to -85	42.1	34.4	43.6	+2.3 to -2.3
Supply, total	1,731	1,510	1,677	+95 to -95	47.1	41.1	45.6	+2.6 to -2.6
Crushings	865	800	840	+40 to -40	23.5	21.8	22.9	+1.1 to -1.1
Exports	555	570	610	+35 to -35	15.1	15.5	16.6	+1.0 to -1.0
Seed, feed, and residual	66	65	82	—	1.6	1.8	2.2	—
Use, total	1,486	1,435	1,532	+50 to -50	40.4	39.1	41.7	+1.4 to -1.4
Ending stocks	245	75	145	+50 to -50	6.7	2.0	3.9	+1.4 to -1.4
	Dol. per bu.				Dol. per metric ton			
Price received by farmers	4.92	³ 7.25	5.00	+50 to -50	180.78	³ 266	184	+18 to -18
Price, Chi., No. 1 yellow	5.25	⁴ 7.52	—	—	192.90	⁴ 276.31	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Supply and utilization of major crops¹ —Continued

Commodity	Domestic measure ²				Metric measure ²			
	1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78		1975/76	1976/77 estimated	1977/78	
			Projected	Probable variability*			Projected	Probable variability*
Soybean oil:²								
		Mil. lb.				Thou. metric tons		
Beginning stocks	561	1,261	845	+100 to -100	254	567	383	+45 to -45
Production	9,630	8,744	8,990	+400 to -400	4,368	3,966	4,078	+181 to -181
Supply, total	10,191	9,995	9,835	+400 to -400	4,623	4,534	4,461	+181 to -181
Domestic	7,964	7,550	7,550	+400 to -400	3,612	3,425	3,425	+181 to -181
Exports	976	1,600	1,400	+200 to -200	443	726	635	+91 to -91
Use, total	8,940	9,150	8,950	+300 to -300	4,055	4,150	4,060	+136 to -136
Ending stocks	1,251	845	885	+200 to -200	567	383	401	+91 to -91
		Cts. per lb.				Cts. per kilogram		
Price, crude, Decatur	18.3	⁴ 24.6	19	+5 to -5	40.3	⁴ 54.2	41.9	+1.1 to -1.1
Soybean meal:								
		Thou. short tons				Thou. metric tons		
Beginning stocks	358	355	335	+50 to -50	325	322	304	+45 to -45
Production	20,754	19,040	19,950	+900 to -900	18,828	17,273	18,098	+816 to -816
Supply, total	21,112	19,395	20,285	+900 to -900	19,152	17,595	18,402	+816 to -816
Domestic	15,612	14,360	16,080	+700 to -700	14,163	13,027	13,680	+635 to -635
Exports	5,145	4,700	4,850	+300 to -300	4,667	4,264	4,400	+272 to -272
Use, total	20,757	19,060	19,930	+800 to -800	18,830	17,291	18,080	+726 to -726
Ending stocks	355	335	355	+100 to -100	322	304	322	+91 to -91
		Dol. per short ton				Dol. per metric ton		
Price, bulk, Decatur, 44%	147.77	⁴ 200	140	+40 to -40	162.90	⁴ 220	154	+44 to -44
Cotton:⁶								
		Mil. acres				Mil. hectares		
Area								
Planted	9.5	11.7	13.4	—	3.8	4.7	5.4	—
Harvested	8.8	10.9	12.8	—	3.6	4.4	5.2	—
		Lb. per acre				Metric tons per hectare		
Yield per harvested unit	453	465	506	—	.51	.52	.57	—
		Mil. 480-lb. bales				Mil. metric tons		
Beginning stocks	⁷ 5.7	⁷ 3.7	2.9	+0.1 to -0.1	⁷ 1.2	⁷ 1.8	.6	(⁸)
Production	8.3	10.6	13.5	+1.0 to -1.0	1.8	2.3	2.9	+0.2 to -0.2
Supply, total ⁹	14.1	14.3	16.5	+1.0 to -1.0	3.1	3.1	3.6	+2 to -2
Mill use	7.3	6.7	6.8	+5 to -5	1.6	1.5	1.5	+1 to -1
Exports	3.3	4.9	4.6	+5 to -5	.7	1.1	1.0	+2 to -2
Use, total	10.6	11.6	11.4	+1.0 to -1.0	2.3	2.5	2.5	+2 to -2
Difference unaccounted ^{1,9} . . . . .	.2	.2	.2	—	(⁸)	(⁸)	(⁸)	(⁸)
Ending stocks	⁷ 3.7	2.9	5.3	+1.0 to -1.0	⁷ 1.8	.6	1.1	+2 to -2
		Cts. per lb.				Cts. per kilogram		
Price received by farmers	51.3	³ 65.0	—	—	113.1	³ 143.3	—	—
Price, SLM, 1-1/16 in., spot	58.0	70.9	—	—	127.9	⁴ 156.3	—	—

¹ Marketing year beginning June 1 for wheat, barley, and oats, August 1 for cotton and rice, September 1 for soybeans, and October 1 for corn, sorghum, and soybean oil and meal. ² Conversion factors: Hectare (ha.)=2.471 acres; and 1 metric ton=2,204.622 pounds. 36.7437 bushels of wheat or soybeans, 39.36.9 bushels of corn or sorghum, 49.9296 bushels of barley, 68.8944 bushels of oats, 22.046 cwt. of rice, and 4.59 480-pound bales of cotton. ³ Season average estimate. ⁴ Average for beginning of marketing year through July 1977. ⁵ Corn, sorghum, oats, and barley. ⁶ Upland and extra long staple. ⁷ Based on Census Bureau data. ⁸ Less than 0.05. ⁹ Includes imports. ¹⁰ Difference between ending stocks based on Census Bureau data and preceding season's supply less distribution.

*The "probable variability" reflects the SRS estimate of "root mean square error" for production. The chances are about 2 out of 3 that the final outcome would fall within the indicated range. Comparable estimates of variability are used for other items in the supply and utilization balance.

Feed grains:

	Marketing year ¹			1976						
	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Wholesale prices:										
Corn, No. 2 yellow, Chicago (\$/bu.)	2.95	3.12	2.75	2.96	2.54	2.52	2.50	2.41	2.27	2.05
Sorghum, No. 2 yellow, Kansas City (\$/cwt.)	4.64	5.04	4.46	4.73	3.85	3.75	3.62	3.53	3.28	3.15
Barley, feed, Minneapolis (\$/bu.)	2.03	2.58	2.38	2.45	2.35	2.29	2.28	2.13	1.76	1.63
Barley, malting, Minneapolis (\$/bu.) ²	2.67	4.16	3.62	3.59	2.91	2.98	2.91	2.83	2.38	2.02
Exports:										
Corn (mil. bu.)	1,243	1,149	1,711	139	120	161	142	140	127	*117
Feed grains (mil. short tons) ³	44.5	39.4	55.1	4.6	4.4	5.0	4.5	4.5	3.9	*4.3

	Marketing year ¹			1976				1977		
	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept
Corn:										
Stocks, beginning (mil. bu.)	709	483	359	4,449	2,823	1,861	398	4,861	3,273	2,351
Domestic use:										
Feed (mil. bu.)	4,183	3,191	3,558	1,101	551	769	1,135	1,060	544	—
Food, seed, ind. (mil. bu.)	448	450	491	120	92	162	121	128	97	—
Feed grains:⁴										
Stocks, beginning (mil. short tons)	33.9	23.7	16.8	152.5	95.6	62.8	30.0	163.1	108.7	77.0
Domestic use:										
Feed (mil. short tons)	153.3	115.6	127.6	39.1	19.1	27.4	40.5	36.1	18.4	—
Food, seed, ind. (mil. short tons)	17.6	17.7	18.8	4.5	4.0	6.1	4.4	4.7	4.2	—

¹ Beginning October 1 for corn and sorghum; June 1 for oats and barley. ² No. 3 or better, 70% or better plump. ³ Aggregated data for corn, sorghum, oats and barley. ⁴ Based on inspections for export.

Food grains:

	Marketing year ¹			1976						
	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Wholesale prices:										
Wheat, No. 1 HRW, Kansas City (\$/bu.) ²	4.20	3.74	2.88	3.63	2.73	2.63	2.52	2.36	2.31	2.35
Wheat, DNS, Minneapolis (\$/bu.) ³	4.57	3.74	2.96	3.63	2.87	2.82	2.75	2.59	2.43	2.29
Flour, Kansas City (\$/cwt.)	10.19	9.25	7.21	8.72	6.81	6.52	6.20	5.84	5.58	5.85
Flour, Minneapolis (\$/cwt.)	11.40	10.41	8.34	10.29	7.86	7.72	7.12	6.92	6.50	6.59
Rice, S.W. La. (\$/cwt.) ⁴	21.50	17.20	14.60	16.25	13.50	13.95	15.65	16.45	16.25	16.25
Wheat:										
Exports (mil. bu.)	1,018	1,173	950	90	65	60	79	72	82	—
Mil. grind (mil. bu.)	538	572	593	48	48	55	46	47	46	—
Wheat flour production (mil. cwt.)	239	255	263	22	21	24	21	21	20	—

	Marketing year ¹			1976				1977		
	1974/76	1975/76	1976/77	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-May	June-Sept
Wheat:										
Stocks, beginning (mil. bu.)	340	435	664	1,385	936	664	2,186	1,780	1,388	1,109
Domestic use:										
Food (mil. bu.)	521	559	553	140	89	188	144	138	83	—
Feed and seed (mil. bu.) ⁴	165	176	202	62	29	39	42	75	46	—
Exports (mil. bu.)	1,019	1,173	950	247	154	399	220	179	152	—

¹ Beginning June 1 for wheat and August 1 for rice. ² Ordinary protein. ³ Long-grain, milled basis. ⁴ Feed use approximated by residual.

Vegetables:

	January-June			1976						
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Wholesale prices:										
Potatoes, white, f.o.b. East (\$/cwt.)	4.36	6.92	6.83	4.89	6.37	6.41	8.10	7.16	5.86	5.06
Iceberg lettuce (\$/ctn.) ¹	2.54	3.08	2.78	4.99	2.78	3.76	2.06	2.85	2.68	3.12
Tomatoes (\$/ctn.) ²	6.88	6.86	7.13	4.49	7.30	—	9.16	7.38	5.68	7.84
Wholesale price index, 10 canned veg. (1967=100)										
	171	156	170	156	163	162	174	175	176	176
Grower price index, fresh commercial veg. (1967=100)										
	176	171	219	169	267	270	199	185	169	169

¹ Std. carton 24's, f.o.b. shipping point. ² 2 layers, 5 x 6-6 x 6, f.o.b. Fla.-Cal.

Fruit:

	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Wholesale price indexes:										
Fresh fruit (1967=100)	164.1	154.6	176.9	158.7	174.3	183.2	173.6	187.9	170.3	172.7
Dried fruit (1967=100)	216.1	209.6	357.0	214.9	356.7	356.7	357.2	357.2	357.2	353.3
Canned fruit and juice (1967=100)	175.1	170.3	186.1	174.9	184.8	186.1	187.7	188.6	190.7	190.6
Frozen fruit and juice (1967=100)	155.1	160.9	179.7	152.3	186.1	184.7	184.7	184.7	193.6	194.1
F.o.b. shipping point prices:¹										
Apples, Yakima Valley (\$/ctn.) ²	36.62	32.85	17.44	n.a.	8.94	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Pears, Yakima Valley (\$/box) ³	26.42	31.92	18.16	n.a.	6.13	5.83	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Oranges, U.S. avg. (\$/box)	6.45	6.27	7.18	7.00	7.48	7.33	7.36	7.08	7.89	7.68
Grapefruit, U.S. avg. (\$/box)	6.37	5.74	6.30	6.38	7.04	6.27	6.28	6.15	6.67	7.39
Stocks, beginning:										
Fresh apples (mil. lb.)	6,491.3	8,504.2	7,206.9	174.0	1,775.9	1,335.2	912.8	605.1	329.4	167.1
Fresh pears (mil. lb.)	441.7	486.9	691.3	.3	178.0	132.2	94.2	51.8	23.5	.3
Frozen fruit (mil. lb.)	3,023.7	2,621.3	2,879.5	383.8	499.0	459.4	419.4	378.3	381.8	457.4
Frozen fruit juices (mil. lb.)	5,677.6	7,522.6	6,568.3	1,600.5	916.9	1,075.8	1,195.7	1,224.5	1,310.1	1,193.6

¹ Annual prices are seasonal average ending with Year listed. ² Red Delicious, regular storage, Washington extra fancy, carton tray pack, 80-125's. ³ D'Anjou pears, regular storage, Washington wrapped, U.S. No. 1, 90-135's, n.a. not available.

Cotton:

	Marketing year ¹			1976	1977					
	1974/75	1975/76	1976/77	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
U.S. Price, SLM, 1-1/16 in. (cts./lb.) ²	41.7	58.0	70.9	78.7	72.2	75.8	73.7	70.7	61.1	58.2
Northern Europe prices:										
Index (cts./lb.) ³	52.5	65.3	81.7	88.3	83.8	86.4	85.3	81.2	71.8	67.1
U.S., SM 1-1/16 in. (cts./lb.) ⁴	56.4	71.4	82.4	87.5	85.0	88.1	86.1	83.1	72.5	66.5
U.S. mill consumption (thou. bales)	5,833.7	7,227.7	—	461.8	542.2	674.6	523.2	524.1	636.9	—
Exports (thou. bales)	3,925.9	3,311.3	—	287.4	534.7	563.6	575.3	418.8	486.0	—

¹ Beginning August 1. ² Average spot market. ³ Liverpool Outlook "A" index; average of five lowest priced of 10 selected growths. ⁴ Memphis territory growths.

Fats and oils:

	Marketing Year ¹			1976	1977					
	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Soybeans:										
Wholesale price, No. 1 yellow, Chicago (\$/bu.)	6.12	6.33	5.25	6.64	7.25	8.33	9.74	9.50	8.18	6.33
Crushings (mil. bu.)	821.3	701.3	865	70.6	71.6	74.4	67.1	61.2	56.0	—
Processing margin (\$/bu.) ² .....	.72	.17	.16	.26	.25	.08	.26	.21	.33	—
Exports (mil. bu.)	539.1	420.7	555	29.2	59.9	58.4	57.0	55.1	31.0	—
Soybean oil:										
Wholesale Price, crude, Decatur (cts./lb.)	31.5	30.7	18.3	20.9	22.4	26.5	29.6	31.3	28.3	23.8
Production (mil. lb.)	8,994.7	7,376.2	9,630	788.7	791.2	823.7	747.3	682.4	631.1	—
Domestic disappearance (mil. lb.)	7,255.4	6,518.5	7,906	751.9	684.1	698.2	632.9	588.0	647.5	—
Exports (mil. lb.)	1,435.2	1,028.3	976	77.8	96.7	240.7	113.8	217.0	164.5	—
Stocks, beginning (mil. lb.)	515.5	793.5	561	1,274.5	1,599.5	1,609.4	1,486.4	1,478.9	1,355.0	1,166.3
Soybean meal:										
Wholesale price, 44% protein, Decatur (\$/ton)	146.35	130.86	147.77	193.90	211.00	226.20	275.60	258.25	225.30	162.00
Production (thou. ton)	19,674.4	16,701.5	20,754	1,670.3	1,709.2	1,771.0	1,596.0	1,453.9	1,339.4	—
Domestic disappearance (thou. ton)	13,766.3	12,501.3	15,552	1,248.9	1,356.9	1,142.5	1,189.1	1,015.2	1,116.3	—
Exports (thou. ton)	5,547.6	4,298.8	5,145	384.3	305.4	636.7	368.0	473.9	239.6	—
Stocks, beginning (thou. ton)	183.2	507.3	358	369.8	384.7	429.9	412.6	449.0	408.3	390.7
Margarine, wholesale price, Chicago (cts./lb.)	44.3	37.9	31.4	31.8	34.0	39.5	42.5	44.3	43.9	42.4

¹ Beginning September 1 for soybeans; October 1 for soy meal and oil; calendar year 1974, 1975, and 1976 for margarine. Spot basis, Illinois shipping points.

Sugar:

	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Wholesale price, N.Y. (\$/cwt.) ¹	27.67	15.45	11.31	14.59	11.06	11.67	12.57	11.34	10.28	10.15
U.S. deliveries (thou. short tons) ^{1, 2}	4,337	5,300	5,404	979	761	1,017	896	875	1,027	³ 960

¹ Raw value. ² Excludes Hawaii. ³ Preliminary.

Tobacco:

	Annual			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Prices at auctions:										
Flue-cured (cts./lb.) ¹	99.8	110.6	—	98.6	—	—	—	—	—	88.7
Burley (cts./lb.) ¹	105.6	114.2	—	—	112.8	110.2	105.5	—	—	—
Domestic consumption ¹	January-June									
Cigarettes (bil.)	264.7	288.0	² 298.6	44.0	49.1	53.4	45.1	46.9	55.1	—
Large cigars (mil.)	2,808	2,656	³ 2,491	394.7	406.4	478.1	369.2	460.2	470.8	—

¹ Crop year July-June for flue-cured, October-September for burley. ² Taxable removals. ³ Subject to revision.

Coffee:

	January-June			1976	1977p					
	1975	1976	1977p	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Composite green price, N.Y. (cts./lb.)	62.05	118.12	283.82	142.34	251.20	324.59	333.49	295.95	269.81	246.15
Imports, green bean equivalent (mil. lb.) ¹	1,339	1,541	1,429	273	248	275	268	184	172	n.a.
	January-June			1975	1976			1977p		
	1975	1976	1977p	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Roastings (mil. lb.) ²	1,215	1,401	1,059	612	742	659	510	611	629	430

¹ Green and processed coffee. ² Instant soluble and roasted coffee. p preliminary. n.a. not available.

Transportation Data

Rail rates, grain and fruit and vegetable shipments

	January-June			1976	1977					
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Rail freight rate index ¹										
All products (1969=100)	160.8	183.9	198.2	187.4	198.0	198.2	198.3	198.2	198.2	198.4
Farm products (1969=100)	155.9	179.9	190.2	183.3	190.0	190.2	190.3	190.4	190.6	190.6
Food products (1969=100)	160.1	182.3	194.4	186.2	194.5	194.9	194.9	193.9	193.9	194.3
Rail carloadings of grain (thou. cars) ²	22.5	24.6	23.1	29.9	25.0	24.5	22.3	20.3	23.1	25.9
Barge shipments of grain (mil. bu.) ³	18.7	31.0	27.1	30.1	15.3	31.4	30.4	34.4	29.2	31.0
Fresh fruit and vegetable shipments										
Rail (thou. carlots) ^{2, 4}	4.2	3.8	2.4	4.3	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.3	3.2	1.8
Truck (thou. carlots) ^{2, 4}	15.1	17.0	15.0	18.0	11.5	12.7	14.3	16.2	19.4	15.5

¹ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. ² Weekly average; from Association of American Railroads. ³ Weekly average; from Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA. ⁴ Preliminary data for 1977.

General Economic Data

Gross national product and related data

Items	First Half			1975		1976				1977	
	1975	1976	1977	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
\$ Bil. (Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates)											
Gross national product ¹	1,474.8	1,671.6	1,839.9	1,564.9	1,600.7	1,651.2	1,691.9	1,727.3	1,755.4	1,810.8	1,869.7
Personal consumption expenditures	951.2	1,067.2	1,183.2	996.1	1,024.1	1,056.0	1,078.5	1,102.2	1,139.0	1,172.4	1,194.0
Durable goods	125.3	155.0	178.0	136.7	144.3	153.3	156.7	159.3	166.3	177.0	178.6
Nondurable goods	400.2	433.8	471.0	415.0	421.9	430.4	437.1	444.7	458.8	466.6	474.4
Clothing and shoes	68.2	74.2	80.6	71.6	73.0	74.2	74.3	76.9	79.9	79.3	80.4
Food and beverages	205.2	221.6	241.4	212.1	215.4	219.3	223.9	227.0	232.0	237.9	244.8
Services	425.7	478.5	534.2	443.4	457.9	472.4	484.6	498.2	513.9	528.8	541.1
Gross private domestic investment	173.2	237.8	282.4	205.4	204.7	231.3	244.4	254.3	243.4	271.8	294.9
Fixed investment	196.7	221.4	265.6	200.5	208.4	216.8	226.1	232.8	244.3	258.0	273.2
Nonresidential	148.8	157.6	180.2	148.2	150.7	155.4	159.8	164.9	167.6	177.0	182.4
Residential	48.0	63.8	85.5	52.3	57.6	61.4	66.3	67.8	76.7	81.0	90.8
Change in business inventories	-23.6	16.4	16.8	4.9	-3.6	14.5	18.3	21.5	-9	13.8	21.7
Net exports of goods and services	19.8	10.2	-8.2	20.8	20.8	10.2	10.2	7.9	3.0	-8.2	-9.8
Exports	145.0	157.2	172.9	146.9	152.1	153.9	160.6	168.4	168.5	170.4	178.0
Imports	125.1	147.0	181.0	126.1	131.3	143.7	150.4	160.6	165.6	178.8	187.8
Government purchases of goods and services	330.6	356.2	382.5	343.5	351.0	353.6	358.9	363.0	370.0	374.9	390.6
Federal	120.7	128.0	139.8	123.8	128.1	127.6	128.6	130.2	134.2	136.3	143.6
State and local	209.8	228.2	242.5	219.7	222.9	225.9	230.4	232.7	235.8	238.5	247.0
1972 \$ Bil. (Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates)											
Gross national product	1,179.0	1,263.8	1,321.3	1,220.7	1,229.8	1,256.0	1,271.5	1,283.7	1,287.4	1,311.0	1,330.6
Personal consumption expenditures	763.6	811.4	852.5	780.2	792.8	807.2	815.5	822.7	839.8	850.4	854.1
Durable goods	107.6	126.0	137.6	115.4	120.2	125.4	126.6	127.1	130.7	136.9	137.9
Nondurable goods	305.1	317.7	330.2	308.6	311.5	316.1	319.3	321.5	329.4	329.7	330.0
Clothing and shoes	60.0	63.7	65.9	62.4	63.5	63.9	63.4	64.7	66.8	65.5	66.0
Food and beverages	151.1	157.4	165.9	151.9	153.5	156.1	158.6	160.1	163.9	165.4	166.4
Services	351.0	367.6	384.8	366.2	361.2	366.6	369.6	374.0	379.7	383.8	386.3
Gross private domestic investment	132.0	171.6	127.9	153.1	149.2	168.1	175.2	179.4	169.2	186.7	197.2
Fixed investment	150.9	160.8	180.8	150.2	153.8	158.4	163.1	165.6	171.0	177.0	184.0
Nonresidential	114.3	114.8	125.6	111.0	111.3	113.7	115.9	118.5	119.0	124.3	126.4
Residential	36.6	46.0	55.1	39.3	42.6	44.8	47.1	47.1	52.0	52.7	57.6
Change in business inventories	-19.0	10.9	11.1	2.9	-4.6	9.7	12.1	13.8	-1.8	9.7	13.2
Net exports of goods and services	22.6	16.6	10.3	22.7	22.3	16.8	16.4	17.0	13.8	10.6	9.3
Exports	88.6	94.2	97.0	89.7	92.8	93.1	95.2	97.9	96.9	96.9	98.6
Imports	66.0	77.6	86.6	67.0	70.6	76.3	78.9	80.9	83.1	86.3	89.2
Government purchases of goods and services	260.8	264.2	266.6	264.8	265.4	263.9	264.4	264.6	264.6	263.3	270.0
Federal	96.2	96.2	99.0	96.9	97.4	96.4	96.1	96.7	97.1	97.0	101.1
State and local	164.6	168.0	167.6	167.8	168.0	167.5	168.4	168.0	167.5	166.4	168.9
New plant and equipment expenditures (\$ bil.)	113.5	116.42	132.31	112.16	111.80	114.72	118.12	122.65	126.22	130.16	134.46
Implicit price deflator for GNP (1972=100)	125.08	132.26	139.24	128.20	130.17	131.47	133.06	134.56	136.36	138.13	140.51
Disposable income (\$bil.)	1,058.8	1,163.7	1,273.8	1,095.7	1,124.1	1,153.3	1,174.1	1,193.3	1,222.6	1,262.4	1,292.5
Disposable income (1972 \$bil.)	850.0	884.6	917.8	859.1	870.2	881.5	887.8	890.7	901.5	908.4	924.5
Per capita disposable income (\$)	4,799	5,418	5,886	5,125	5,247	5,374	5,462	5,540	5,665	5,793	5,967
Per capita disposable income (1972 \$)	3,988	4,118	4,241	4,018	4,062	4,107	4,130	4,135	4,177	4,202	4,268
U.S. population, tot. incl. military abroad (mil.)	213.1	214.8	216.4	213.8	214.2	214.6	214.9	215.4	215.8	216.2	216.6
Civilian population (mil.)	210.9	212.6	214.2	211.8	212.1	212.5	212.8	213.2	213.7	214.0	214.4

See footnotes at end of next table.

Selected monthly indicators

Items	January-June			1977						
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted										
Industrial production, total ² (1967=100)	113.7	128.2	135.4p	130.7	133.2	135.2	136.2	137.4	138.3p	139.0p
Manufacturing (1967=100)	111.8	128.1	135.2p	131.0	132.9	135.2	136.0	137.4	138.3p	138.8p
Durable (1967=100)	106.2	119.5	126.9p	124.2	124.0	126.8	127.9	129.3	130.6p	131.3p
Nondurable (1967=100)	119.9	140.4	147.2p	141.1	145.7	147.0	147.8	149.1	149.3p	149.6p
Leading economic indicators ^{1,3} (1967=100)	109.4	123.2	129.1	125.7	127.5	129.9	130.5	130.2	129.9	129.7p
Employment ⁴ (Mil. persons)	84.4	87.0	89.7	87.8	89.0	89.5	90.0	90.4	90.7	90.6
Unemployment rate ⁴ (%)	8.4	7.6	7.2	7.8	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.9
Personal income ¹ (\$bil. annual rate)	1,219.9	1,352.4	1,497.0	1,386.2	1,477.0	1,499.1	1,510.1	1,517.3	1,524.3p	1,536.0p
Hourly earnings in manufacturing ^{4,5} (\$)	4.72	5.08	5.61p	5.20	5.43	5.48	5.52	5.56	5.60p	5.63p
Money stock (daily average) ² (\$bil.)	285.2	299.8	317.7	305.0	314.0	315.4	320.5	320.7	321.9	326.8p
Time and savings deposits (daily average) ² (\$bil.)	429.7	459.0	504.7	469.0	500.0	502.8	505.7	509.2	514.8	519.5p
Three-month Treasury bill rate ¹ (%)	5.637	5.061	4.728	5.278	4.662	4.613	4.540	4.942	5.013	—
Aaa corporate bond yield (Moody's) ⁶ (%)	8.79	8.54	8.02	8.56	8.04	8.10	8.04	8.05	7.95	7.94
Interest rate on new home mortgages ⁷ (%)	9.06	8.94	8.98	8.97	8.99	8.95	8.94	8.96	8.98	9.00p
Housing starts, private (including farm) (thou.)	1,017	1,412	1,832p	1,413	1,802	2,089	1,880	1,937	1,901p	2,064p
Auto sales at retail, total ¹ (mil.)	8.2	10.2	11.4p	9.9	11.0	12.2	11.8	11.5	11.7p	—
Business sales, total ¹ (\$bil.)	165.8	189.2	211.0p	193.3	207.5	214.6	213.6	213.8	214.3p	—
Business inventories, total ¹ (\$bil.)	276.1	282.5	308.6p	290.9	304.0	307.3	309.8	313.1	315.3p	—
Sales of all retail stores (\$bil.) ⁸	47.1	53.0	58.6p	53.8	58.2	59.5	59.5	59.2	58.4p	58.7p
Durable goods stores (\$bil.)	14.3	17.5	20.0p	17.7	19.8	20.7	20.3	20.1	19.9p	19.8p
Nondurable goods stores (\$bil.)	32.7	35.5	38.6p	36.1	38.4	38.8	39.1	39.1	38.6p	38.9p
Food stores (\$bil.)	10.8	11.5	12.4p	11.6	12.2	12.4	12.5	12.7	12.6p	12.5p
Eating and drinking places (\$bil.)	3.9	4.3	4.7p	4.4	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8p	4.9p
Apparel and accessory stores (\$bil.)	2.2	2.3	2.4p	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4p	2.3p

¹ Department of Commerce. ² Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. ³ Composite index of 12 leading indicators. ⁴ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. ⁵ Not seasonally adjusted. ⁶ Moody's Investors Service. ⁷ Federal Home Loan Bank Board. ⁸ Adjusted for seasonal variations, holidays, and trading day differences. p. Preliminary.

U.S. Agricultural Trade

Prices of principal U.S. agricultural trade products

Items	January-June			1977						
	1975	1976	1977	July	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July
Export commodities:										
Wheat, f.o.b. Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	3.93	4.02	2.83	3.87	3.04	2.97	2.78	2.65	2.56	2.66
Corn, f.o.b. Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	3.12	2.96	2.73	3.16	2.93	2.78	2.73	2.64	2.45	2.25
Grain sorghum, f.o.b. Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	2.92	2.79	2.47	2.85	2.63	2.53	2.44	2.38	2.24	2.06
Soybeans, f.o.b. Gulf ports (\$/bu.)	5.93	5.30	8.70	7.07	7.80	8.65	10.03	9.84	8.50	6.80
Soybean oil, Decatur (cts./lb.)	27.90	16.46	26.31	20.87	21.34	26.46	29.60	31.27	28.34	23.77
Soybean meal, Decatur (\$/ton)	120.93	142.66	233.89	193.90	211.00	226.20	275.60	258.25	225.30	—
Cotton, 10 market avg. spot (cts./lb.)	39.21	60.27	70.04	78.73	72.15	75.75	73.67	70.65	61.08	58.18
Tobacco, avg. price of auction (cts./lb.)	105.70	100.63	114.45	98.70	118.30	122.10	115.20	109.50	108.00	96.70
Rice, f.o.b. mill, Houston (\$/cwt.)	22.32	17.33	14.95	16.40	13.90	14.00	15.45	16.25	16.25	16.25
Inedible tallow, Chicago (cts./lb.)	11.13	13.20	14.81	14.03	13.87	14.56	15.59	16.75	14.69	12.88
Import commodities:										
Coffee, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	70.55	123.30	281.72	148.30	240.50	316.10	327.25	304.77	279.58	218.00
Sugar, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	27.67	15.45	11.31	14.59	11.06	11.67	12.57	11.34	10.28	10.15
Cow meat, f.o.b. port of entry (cts./lb.)	56.08	75.27	70.67	69.41	74.35	73.56	70.33	67.95	66.28	64.31
Rubber, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	29.40	38.09	40.58	40.70	41.11	41.48	40.87	40.17	39.04	39.38
Cocoa beans, N.Y. spot (cts./lb.)	75.40	86.40	192.00	107.00	193.10	205.80	188.90	196.30	n.a.	n.a.
Bananas, f.o.b. port of entry (\$/40-lb. box)	4.62	4.79	5.29	4.69	5.44	5.50	5.44	5.79	5.17	4.24
Canned Danish ham, ex-warehouse N.Y. (\$/lb.) ..	1.60	1.76	1.76	1.68	1.74	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.83	—
Quantity indices										
Export (1967=100)	149	172	176	161	177	194	183	179	159	n.a.
Import (1967=100)	116	142	146	135	146	153	155	139	143	n.a.
Unit Value Indices										
Export (1967=100)	229	204	223	210	216	222	228	232	222	n.a.
Import (1967=100)	231	202	314	n.a.	281	289	332	359	363	n.a.

n.a. not available.

U.S. agricultural exports

Selected commodities	October-June				June			
	1975/76	1976/77	1975/76	1976/77	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Thou. units		\$ Thou.		Thou. units		\$ Thou.	
Animals, live, excl. poultry	—	—	96,441	69,138	—	—	8,784	7,913
Meat and preps., excl. poultry (lb.)	625,609	694,998	455,264	452,590	73,808	73,443	51,962	49,703
Dairy products, excl. eggs	—	—	92,349	121,771	—	—	20,110	23,456
Poultry and poultry products	—	—	165,279	215,191	—	—	22,580	24,955
Grains and preparations	—	—	8,680,788	7,101,952	—	—	884,654	717,472
Wheat and wheat flour (bu.)	811,234	624,007	3,483,000	2,147,281	72,465	80,899	302,036	256,662
Rice, milled (lb.)	2,862,313	3,451,077	421,161	480,518	348,539	380,447	46,198	59,093
Feed grains (metric ton)	38,386	39,056	4,600,368	4,286,700	4,280	3,628	515,729	376,834
Other	—	—	176,259	187,453	—	—	20,691	24,883
Fruits, nuts, and preparations	—	—	681,760	741,197	—	—	82,950	89,803
Vegetables and preparations	—	—	468,438	571,189	—	—	48,404	56,174
Sugar and preps., incl. honey (lb.)	361,508	371,132	66,253	51,803	38,730	28,241	6,911	5,839
Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, etc. (lb.)	67,561	65,543	68,561	88,537	5,601	6,522	6,072	8,683
Feeds and fodders	—	—	900,486	1,259,595	—	—	113,868	106,492
Protein meal (short ton)	4,151	3,908	630,766	786,809	492	245	78,457	60,359
Beverages, excl. distilled alcoholic (gal.)	4,831	9,598	9,957	18,545	642	1,511	1,259	2,959
Tobacco, unmanufactured (lb.)	491,958	485,514	756,375	799,091	27,092	43,094	41,765	71,495
Hides, skins, and furskins	—	—	480,434	636,077	—	—	48,079	53,702
Oilseeds	—	—	2,750,476	4,106,229	—	—	279,153	324,741
Soybeans (bu.)	477,301	496,561	2,546,631	3,836,323	47,171	30,991	265,760	294,829
Wool, unmanufactured (lb. grease basis)	7,999	5,724	19,934	19,348	819	789	2,182	2,724
Cotton, unmanufactured (running bale)	2,319	3,667	628,667	1,301,827	315	462	89,015	167,505
Fats, oils, and greases (lb.)	1,678,513	2,280,306	298,689	418,938	166,685	258,892	28,227	54,103
Vegetable oils and waxes (lb.)	1,640,778	2,074,081	426,368	570,341	196,748	251,527	52,834	74,001
Rubber and allied gums (lb.)	32,448	34,345	16,785	18,661	3,988	4,873	2,033	2,811
Other	—	—	341,566	427,099	—	—	33,005	37,609
Total	—	—	17,404,870	18,989,119	—	—	1,823,847	1,882,140

U.S. agricultural exports by regions

Region ¹	October-June.		June		Change from year-earlier	
	1975/76	1976/77	1976	1977 ²	Oct-June 1976/77	June 1977
	\$ Mil.				Pct.	
Western Europe	5,718	7,287	529	576	+27	+9
Enlarged European Community	4,561	5,939	453	482	+30	+6
Other Western Europe	1,157	1,348	76	95	+17	+25
Eastern Europe and USSR	2,252	1,471	217	89	-35	-59
USSR	1,630	966	135	60	-41	-56
Eastern Europe	622	505	82	28	-19	-66
Asia	5,454	6,276	595	735	+15	+24
West Asia	591	814	90	108	+38	+20
South Asia	820	560	38	115	-32	+203
Southeast Asia, ex. Japan and PRC	1,471	1,847	174	237	+26	+36
Japan	2,570	3,054	293	275	+19	-6
Peoples Republic of China	2	(³)	—	—	—	—
Latin America	1,624	1,434	143	191	-12	+34
Canada, excluding transshipments	1,067	1,233	141	150	+16	+6
Canadian transshipments	385	222	59	17	-42	-71
Africa	820	965	130	117	+18	-10
North Africa	522	561	84	58	+8	-31
Other Africa	298	404	46	58	+36	+26
Oceania	86	102	10	7	+19	-30
Total³	17,405	18,989	1,824	1,882	+9	+3

¹ Not adjusted for transshipments. ² Less than \$500,000. ³ Totals may not add due to rounding.

U.S. agricultural imports

Selected commodities	October-June				June			
	1975/76	1976/77	1975/76	1976/77	1976	1977	1976	1977
	Thou. units		\$ Thou.		Thou. units		\$ Thou.	
Animals live, excl. poultry	—	—	172,583	190,330	—	—	19,212	16,190
Meat and preps., excl. poultry (lb.)	1,394,819	1,252,819	1,069,991	959,712	186,572	135,347	146,401	102,576
Beef and veal (lb.)	1,092,747	976,289	852,285	599,987	149,239	102,710	99,561	62,185
Pork (lb.)	254,851	238,578	382,351	328,271	28,343	28,564	40,131	37,102
Dairy products, excl. eggs	—	—	192,780	225,344	—	—	19,012	22,623
Poultry and poultry products	—	—	24,833	56,554	—	—	3,616	11,300
Grains and Preparations	—	—	133,079	128,115	—	—	19,018	22,546
Wheat and flour (bu.)	834	1,313	3,123	3,387	425	424	1,578	970
Rice (lb.)	2,582	3,012	678	560	97	301	42	51
Feed grains (metric ton)	240	213	40,546	29,875	54	71	7,924	9,959
Other	—	—	88,732	94,293	—	—	9,474	11,566
Fruits, nuts, and Preparations	—	—	525,693	672,333	—	—	70,466	94,229
Bananas (lb.)	3,438,000	3,518,699	195,742	232,967	464,487	455,120	26,887	28,937
Vegetables and Preparations	—	—	344,684	504,958	—	—	49,268	50,622
Sugar and preps., incl. honey	—	—	1,062,568	798,453	—	—	141,883	97,538
Sugar, cane or beet (short ton)	2,959	3,477	904,347	654,789	432	401	122,952	78,538
Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices, etc. (lb.)	3,096,527	2,912,039	2,291,982	4,539,905	353,724	253,943	327,816	523,686
Coffee, green (lb.)	2,041,831	1,884,175	1,556,487	3,338,297	246,559	150,373	240,174	362,219
Cocoa beans (lb.)	482,381	363,360	291,594	373,154	43,657	30,426	31,286	43,633
Feeds and fodders	—	—	39,285	53,375	—	—	4,075	6,632
Protein meal (short ton)	22	21	2,543	3,666	1	5	99	1,469
Beverages, excl. distilled alcoholic (gal.)	89,660	108,674	313,211	384,309	13,206	15,247	42,839	52,197
Tobacco, unmanufactured (lb.)	243,932	227,148	203,304	231,952	25,159	24,091	23,616	25,688
Hides, skins, and furskins	—	—	159,672	162,323	—	—	20,100	18,000
Oilseeds	—	—	47,885	73,882	—	—	7,229	9,510
Soybeans (lb.)	7	149	3	17	0	1	0	1
Wool, unmanufactured (lb. grease basis)	63,221	62,200	62,189	73,925	5,425	9,971	6,092	12,026
Cotton, unmanufactured (running bale)	88	83	20,988	14,359	10	12	2,459	712
Fats, oils, and greases (lb.)	18,995	16,424	4,411	3,528	1,898	2,048	345	487
Vegetable oils and waxes (lb.)	2,014,190	1,767,476	358,033	414,820	162,692	225,884	27,961	67,709
Rubber and allied gums (lb.)	1,273,296	1,286,378	357,858	463,302	147,550	159,742	49,579	58,196
Other	—	—	326,628	394,803	—	—	39,094	47,606
Total	—	—	7,711,657	10,346,282	—	—	1,020,081	1,240,073

Trade Balance

Items	October-June		June	
	1975/76	1976/77	1976	1977
\$ Mil.				
Agricultural exports ¹	17,404	18,989	1,824	1,882
Nonagricultural exports ²	68,080	72,646	8,023	8,370
Total exports ³	85,484	91,635	9,847	10,252
Agricultural imports ³	7,712	10,346	1,020	1,240
Nonagricultural imports ⁴	75,112	95,933	9,705	12,449
Total imports ⁴	82,824	106,279	10,725	13,689
Agricultural trade balance	9,692	8,643	804	642
Nonagricultural trade balance	-7,032	-23,287	-1,682	-4,079
Total trade balance	2,660	-14,644	-878	-3,437

¹ Domestic exports (F.A.S. value). ² Domestic and foreign exports excluding Department of Defense shipments. (F.A.S. value). ³ Imports for consumption (customs value). ⁴ General imports. (customs value).

World Agricultural Production

World supply and utilization, of major crops

Commodity	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75	1975/76 ¹	1976/77 ²	1977/78 ³
	Mil. units						
Wheat:							
Area (hectare)	212.8	210.8	216.5	220.5	226.9	231.9	230.7
Production (metric ton)	348.2	343.3	371.6	356.4	349.4	412.7	397.6
Exports (metric ton)	55.6	70.8	72.6	68.0	73.2	64.1	71.2
Consumption (metric ton) ⁵ . . .	341.4	361.2	363.5	363.0	349.2	375.4	397.2
Ending stocks (metric ton) ⁴ . .	78.8	61.0	69.1	62.5	62.7	100.0	100.3
Coarse grains:							
Area (hectare)	340.9	338.0	351.3	349.2	354.4	356.4	359.4
Production (metric ton)	621.9	602.7	660.9	620.4	634.5	692.1	688.1
Exports (metric ton)	55.5	69.0	80.9	69.5	88.7	83.9	76.5
Consumption (metric ton) ⁵ . . .	608.6	620.5	665.3	625.1	635.0	674.3	671.1
Ending stocks (metric ton) ⁴ . .	78.4	60.6	56.2	51.5	51.0	68.8	85.8
Rice, milled basis:							
Area (hectare)	131.6	130.9	135.1	137.2	139.0	138.8	141.6
Production (metric ton)	212.0	204.7	219.0	222.9	238.7	229.9	236.0
Exports (metric ton)	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.6	8.1	8.1	8.1
Consumption (metric ton) ⁵ . . .	214.8	209.7	216.7	223.4	232.8	232.2	237.1
Ending stocks (metric ton) ⁴ . .	15.8	10.2	12.5	12.1	17.9	15.6	14.5
Total grains:							
Area (hectare)	685.3	679.7	702.9	706.9	720.3	727.1	731.7
Production (metric ton)	1,812.1	1,150.7	1,251.5	1,199.7	1,222.6	1,334.7	1,321.7
Exports (metric ton)	119.2	147.9	161.2	145.1	170.0	156.1	155.8
Consumption (metric ton) ⁵ . . .	1,164.8	1,191.4	1,245.5	1,211.5	1,217.0	1,281.9	1,305.4
Ending stocks (metric ton) ⁴ . .	173.0	131.8	137.8	126.1	131.6	184.4	200.6
Oilseeds and meals:⁶							
Production (metric ton)	55.9	57.6	68.3	63.3	72.3	66.2	76.0
Trade (metric ton)	25.6	25.6	27.3	27.2	33.2	32.2	34.9
Vegetable fats and oils:⁶							
Production (metric ton)	27.8	27.3	30.8	30.3	33.3	31.5	35.1
Trade (metric ton)	9.1	9.2	9.6	9.9	11.7	12.0	12.8
Cotton:							
Area (hectare)	33.2	33.6	32.8	33.4	30.0	31.3	32.8
Production (bale)	59.8	63.0	63.2	64.3	54.3	57.7	63.8
Exports (bale)	18.6	21.0	19.6	17.3	18.8	18.2	19.0
Consumption (bale)	58.3	60.0	62.0	58.6	62.3	60.9	62.0
Ending stocks (bale)	21.1	23.7	25.1	30.2	22.4	19.2	21.0

¹ Estimate. ² Forecast. ³ Where stock data not available (excluding USSR), consumption includes stock changes. ⁴ Stocks data are based on differing marketing years and do not represent levels at a given date. Data not available for all countries; includes estimated change in USSR grain stocks but not absolute level. ⁵ Soybean meal equivalent. ⁶ Calendar year data. 1972 data corresponds with 1971/72, 1973 data with 1972/73, etc..

USDA Sources

USDA: A DIAL AWAY Readers of *Agricultural Outlook* who need to know more about certain agricultural subjects may wish to contact the source persons listed below. **NOTE:** Use (202) 44-and listed 5-digit number when calling long distance. Abbreviations: AMS-Agricultural Marketing Service; ERS-Economic Research Service; FAS-Foreign Agricultural Service; FCS-Farmer Cooperative Service; NOAA-National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration; and SRS-Statistical Reporting Service.

	Phone
Agribusiness, Corporate Farming	
Donn Reimund, ERS	76860
Agricultural History	
Wayne D. Rasmussen, ERS	78183
Agricultural Promotion & Advertising	
Peter Henderson, ERS	74190
Agricultural Statistics	
Juanita Tougias, ERS	78902
Mel Koehn, SRS	72130
Consumer Economics	
Alden Manchester, ERS	78707
Consumer Surveys	
Clark Burbee, ERS	79200
Cooperatives	
Ralph Richardson, FCS	74010
Cotton & Other Fibers	
Russell Barlowe, ERS	78776
Robert Schulte, SRS	74285
Credit & Insurance	
Philip T. Allen, ERS	77383
Larry Walker, ERS	77383
Crop Estimates	
Floyd Rolf, SRS	72127
Dairy Products	
James J. Miller, ERS	78915
Mel Banks, SRS	76351
Economic Projections	
Leroy Quance, ERS	77681
Energy	
Earle E. Gavett, ERS	74943
George B. Rogers, ERS (commodity research)	78699
Joseph R. Barse, ERS (coal & oil shale)	72668
Environmental Quality	
Velmar Davis, ERS	78750
John Schaub, ERS	78151
Exports & Imports	
Dewain Rahe, ERS (outlook)	78261
Thomasine McCall, ERS (statistics)	78364
Farm Real Estate	
Larry Walker, ERS	77383

Farm Size, Capital Requirements & Number of Farms

George Coffman, ERS	76860
Fred Nelson, ERS	76363
James Garrett, SRS (number of farms)	74830

Fats & Oils

George Kromer, ERS	78444
Aubrey Davis, SRS	73843

Feed Grains & Hay

James Naive, ERS	78636
Carl J. Vosloh, Jr., ERS (manufactured feeds)	74943
Arthur Coffing, ERS (world)	79160
William Dowdy, SRS	73843

Fertilizer

Dave Harrington, ERS	75457
Robert Reinsel, ERS (world)	74943
Larry Roberson, SRS	77687

Food Consumption & Prices

Larry Summers, ERS	78707
--------------------	-------

Food Substitutes & Synthetics

William Gallimore, ERS	74190
------------------------	-------

Foreign Agricultural Situation

Richard M. Kennedy, ERS (world)	78260
Charles E. Hanrahan, ERS (agricultural & trade policies)	77590
Robert E. Marx, ERS (Africa & Middle East)	78966
Wayne Denney, ERS (Asia)	78108
Charles Y. Liu, ERS (Communist Asia)	78380
Reed E. Friend, ERS (developed countries)	76809
Tom Vankai, ERS (Eastern Europe)	78380
Howard L. Hall, ERS (Latin America)	78133
Fletcher Pope, ERS (Soviet Union)	78380
Anthony S. Rojko, ERS (commodities)	78981
Arthur B. Mackie, ERS (economic development & trade)	78289
L. Jay Atkinson, ERS (international monetary & finance)	77590

Foreign Development

William Hoofnagle, ERS (technical assistance)	75977
Robert Ayling, ERS (training)	74711

Fruits & Tree Nuts

Jules V. Powell, ERS	77133
Dan Buckner, SRS	77720

Health & Education

Bernal Green, ERS	78673
-------------------	-------

Honey

E. N. Severson, SRS	72123
---------------------	-------

Housing

Ronald Bird, ERS	78717
------------------	-------

Income

Steve Guebert, ERS (farm)	78698
Tom Carlin, ERS (nonmetropolitan)	78366

Inputs and Finance

Robert Reinsel, ERS	74943
---------------------	-------

Labor and Wages

Conrad Fritsch, ERS (manpower)	78865
James Garrett, SRS	74830

Land Ownership

Robert F. Boxley, ERS	72628
-----------------------	-------

Land Policy

Melvin Cotner, ERS	78239
--------------------	-------

Land Use & Planning

William D. Anderson, ERS	74196
--------------------------	-------

Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Estimates

Douglas Murfield, SRS	76146
-----------------------	-------

Livestock & Meat

James Nix, ERS (outlook)	78972
R. J. Crom, ERS (marketing costs)	78470
Paul Blackwood, SRS	76880

Market Structure

Robert Frye, ERS	77799
------------------	-------

Marketing Margins & Statistics

Harry H. Harp, ERS	78454
Lawrence Duewer, ERS (meat)	78470

Marketing Orders

Stan Prochaska, AMS	76766
---------------------	-------

Natural Resources

Marlin Hanson, ERS (inventory)	78081
Howard Hogg, ERS (production projections)	72352

Naval Stores

John Lang, SRS	77687
----------------	-------

Output & Productivity

Donald D. Durost, ERS	75457
-----------------------	-------

Peanuts

Al Walter, ERS	78840
Ron Kriesel, SRS	77687

Pesticides

Ted Eichers, ERS	76620
------------------	-------

Population

Calvin Beale, ERS (rural)	78200
Vera J. Banks, ERS (farm)	78201

Poultry & Eggs

William E. Cathcart, ERS (outlook)	78801
George Rogers, ERS (research)	78342
Al Drain, SRS	72123

Real Estate Values

Philip T. Allen, ERS	77383
----------------------	-------

Rice

James Naive, ERS	78636
Dwayne Hamilton, SRS	73843

Rural Development

Thomas F. Hady, ERS	78226
Kenneth Deavers, ERS (community resources)	78225
Max F. Jordan, ERS (human resources)	78141
Fred K. Hines, ERS (regional analysis)	79108

Continued on page 48

Recent Publications Continued From Page 21

Fats and Oils:

The Palm Oil Industry in West Malaysia.
FAS-M-276 (FAS)

Naval Stores—A Summary of Annual and
Monthly Statistics, 1955-74. SB-567
(COMM)

World Exports of Oilseeds, Oils, and Fats
Slow in 1977. FOP-12-77 (FAS)

Farm Management:

Where and How To Get a Farm—Some
Questions and Answers. L-432
(COMM)

Fruits and Vegetables

The Processing Tomato Industries of
Greece, Portugal, and Spain.
FAS-M-278 (FAS)

U.S. Potato Exports Decrease in May.
FVEG-10-77 (FAS)

The Market News Service on Fruits,
Vegetables, Ornamentals, and
Specialty Crops. MB-61 (COMM)

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Prices, 1976.
SB-571 (COMM)

World Orange and Tangerine Output
Down Slightly, Grapefruit and
Lemons Up. FCF-2-77 (FAS)

Grains:

Third Forecast of 1977 Soviet Grain
Crop. FG-12-77 (FAS)

World Grain Situation: 1977/78 Crop
and Trade Developments. FG-13-77
(FAS)

Labor:

Manpower Economic Utilization Indexes
by Counties, 1970. For sale at NTIS.

When requesting a report from NTIS
please include AGERS number and
payment.

All fiche copies are \$3.00. Prices for
paper copies are noted below.

Standard Federal Region I
(AGERS-11) Paper copy price \$4.50

Standard Federal Region II
(AGERS-12) Paper copy price \$4.50

Standard Federal Region III
(AGERS-13) Paper copy price \$6.75

Standard Federal Region IV
(AGERS-14) Paper copy price \$10.00

Standard Federal Region V
(AGERS-15) Paper copy price \$8.00

Standard Federal Region VI
(AGERS-16) Paper copy price \$8.00

Standard Federal Region VII
(AGERS-17) Paper copy price \$7.50

Standard Federal Region VIII
(AGERS-18) Paper copy price \$6.75

Standard Federal Region IX
(AGERS-19) Paper copy price \$5.00

Standard Federal Region X
(AGERS-20) Paper copy price \$5.00

Livestock (see also Beef and Poultry):

U.S. Exports of Livestock and Products
Exceed Imports by \$14 Million in
June. FLM-MT-15-77 (FAS)

Poultry:

World Poultry and Meat and Egg Produc-
tion and Trade Continue to Rise.
FPE-4-77 (FAS)

Sheep:

Factors in the Decline of the Western
Sheep Industry. AER-377 (ERS)

Sugar:

World Sugar Production Estimate Revised
Upward to 86.6 Million Tons. FS-2-77
(FAS)

Tobacco:

Annual Report on Tobacco Statistics,
1976. SB-570 (COMM)

Flue-Cured Tobacco, Mechanization, and
Labor: Impacts of Alternative Produc-
tion Levels. AER-368 (COMM)

World Tobacco Trade Recovered in 1976.
FT-3-77 (FAS)

World Cigarette Output Accelerates in
1976. FT-2-77 (FAS)

Wheat and Flour:

Flour Milling Costs and Capital Require-
ments. AER-380 (ERS)

Complete Microfiche Set Now Available . . .
Beginning with the July issue of *Agricultural Outlook*, microfiche subscriptions have been offered by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). NTIS is now making a complete microfiche set of back issues available beginning with AO-1 of June 1975 through AO-22 of June 1977. This useful reference collection is priced at \$31 to North American Continent addresses.

Please address orders or queries to: NTIS Sales Desk, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161. Refer to order Number PB 270-474. Checks should be made payable to "NTIS." For a microfiche subscription (not including back issues), use the order form on the inside back cover.

USDA Sources Continued From Page 47

Poverty

Tom Carlin, ERS 78366

Prices—Farm

Doug Fenley, SRS (received) 74278

Fred Thorp, SRS (paid) 74214

Price Spreads for Farm Foods

Henry Badger, ERS 78454

Production Expenditures

David Kincannon, ERS 77577

Programs & Policies

Milton Erickson, ERS 78912

Seeds

John Lang, SRS 77687

State & Local Government

Jerome Stam, ERS 78874

Sugar

Fred Gray, ERS 77290

James R. Gibson, SRS 77687

Taxes

Charles Sisson, ERS 78168

Technology and Innovation

Marshall Miller, ERS 73017

Tobacco

Robert H. Miller, ERS 77290

James R. Gibson, SRS 77687

Transportation

John Gerald, ERS 76363

Vegetables

Charles Porter, ERS 78666

Charles Koines, SRS 77720

Water Resource Planning

Harold M. Stults, ERS 78750

Weather

Richard C. McArdle, ERS (world) 78289

Lyle Denny, NOAA 77917

Harry DeLong, SRS 73843

Wheat & Rye

James Naive, ERS 78636

Arthur Coffing, ERS (world) 79160

Dewayne Hamilton, SRS 73843

Wool & Mohair

Al Evans, ERS 78776

Bob Milton, SRS 76880

To order recent ERS publications, circle the number of the report described. Clip and return form to:

For fastest service, leave label on reverse side intact.

SB-577

SEPTEMBER 1977

ENTER MY SUBSCRIPTION TO AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK AT \$19.50 DOMESTIC, \$24.40 FOREIGN:

NOTE: Make checks payable to: SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

NAME FIRST, LAST									
COMPANY NAME OR ADDITIONAL ADDRESS LINE									
STREET ADDRESS									
CITY					STATE			ZIP CODE	

- ☐ Remittance Enclosed (Make checks payable to Superintendent of Documents)
- ☐ Charge to my Deposit Account No.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Microfiche Order Form
NTISUB/C/151

Enter my microfiche subscription(s) to AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK INTISUB/C/151 at \$25.75 first subscription (North American Continent addresses): \$21 each additional if ordered at the same time to the same address. Other address: \$45 each.

☐ Charge my NTIS Deposit Account No.☐ Here is my check for \$ _____ payable to NTIS.☐ Charge to my American Express Card Account Number:[illegible]

Expiration date _____

Signature _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
US DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
AGR 1M1
FIRST CLASS



To submit a change of address, please cut or peel off the mailing label from your most recent issue of Agricultural Outlook. Mail it along with your new address to: Agricultural Outlook, Room 453 GHI Building, ERS-USDA, 500 12th St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250.